FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 OCTOBER 1980

American Hostages

An unattributed commentary carried by Tehran radio's Arabic service said Ayatollah Khomeyni's failure to mention the hostage question in his 28 October speech had frustrated the expectations of those who thought he would touch on the "broad lines" of his policy toward the United States and on the issue of the detained Americans. However, the radio declared that Khomeyni had left the resolution of the question up to the Majlis and that there was "no need to waste any time by repetition." Incorrectly noting that Khomeyni had failed to mention President Carter by name in his speech, the commentary said this should not be construed to be a sign of "submission or leniency," because he did directly refuse conciliation with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn--and "conciliation with Saddam means conciliation with Carter and Begin."

Another unattributed commentary carried by the Arabic service said the release of the hostages should not be considered an "unjust act," since the Americans have spent a "year of punishment" under the people's control. Also their release should not be viewed as a "cowardly act" so long as its purpose is to bring the United States to "trial" for its policies and expose its "long criminal history."

In yet another unattributed commentary the radio declared that should the United States be able to resume relations with Iran as a result of the release of the hostages, it would be the beginning of a "new conspiracy" against the Islamic government. The radio stated that the people of Iran, who have celebrated the severance of relations with the United States, would find it "difficult" to return to the "situation Iran was in before."

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Mediation Efforts--According to SPA, Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti has appealed to Iranian leaders to give an "official reply" to his proposal to expand the Islamic good-will mission comprised of himself and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to include a number of other Islamic heads of state. In his 19 October meeting with Khomeyni, the ayatollah had implied he would accept the visit of such a mission to Tehran if it were to look into the "crimes of Saddam," and Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani had said he would consult his colleagues over the matter. A recent Karachi radio report cited Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi as saying that there was "no serious impediment" to the proposed mission and that Iranian leaders had asked that it visit Baghdad first. INA reported that Agha Shahi arrived in Baghdad on 30 October to convey a message from Ziaul Haq to President Saddam Husayn as part of the Islamic mission's efforts to settle the dispute.

INA also reported that Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca met with Saddam Husayn and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz to discuss efforts being made by the nonaligned nations to play a role in ending the conflict. INA gave no indication as to whether Malmierca made any progress to this end but did say Saddam Husayn "praised" Cuban President Fidel Castro's efforts to resolve the dispute.

Military Situation--In a 31 October speech carried by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i pledged that the war will continue until Iran digs Saddam Husayn's grave. He said the United States started the war in order to make the Iranian people "stretch out a hand either to the arch-Satan himself or to his great rival" and warned against "superficial pressures" that could force Iran to deviate from the main course of its revolution. Referring to the question of obtaining military equipment from the United States, Raja'i stated: "The spare parts that this arch-Satan owes us we will drag out of his throat. However, to achieve victory in this imposed, artificial war, we are not prepared, not even for a single moment, to become the servants of the United States to obtain the spare parts."

In an interview with Tehran radio after attending a session of the Supreme Defense Council, 'Ali Khamene'i said the council discussed the defense of Abadan and the logistics of dispatching reinforcements to that area. He also reported that the council talked about the need to unify the command structure of the forces in southern Khuzestan--Abadan and Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr)--and said it appointed one commander to direct the activities of the army, guards corps, gendarmerie and volunteer forces in that theater of operations. Khamene'i also declared that Iran is "increasingly moving" toward a centralized command structure to direct the overall conduct of the war.

Tehran radio reported no significant changes in the military situation in southern Khuzestan but said that Iranian forces continue to prevent Iraqi penetration into eastern Khuninshahr, that clashes continue on the Abadan-Mahshahr road and that Abadan has again been subjected to heavy artillery fire. It also claimed Iranian successes in clashes on the Susangerd and Hamidiyeh fronts and in the Ahvaz, Shalamcheh and Charkheh regions, Shush district and the Fakkeh and Sublih axes, reported successful operations in Gilan-e Gharb and said Iranian forces are "mopping up" the enemy in the area of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin. However, the Iraqi General Command, in a communique carried by Baghdad radio, claimed that Iraqi troops have successfully repulsed an Iranian assault in Qasr-e Shirin area and have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The communique also reported that Iraqi aircraft hit Iranian concentrations in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and that Iranian planes attacked presidential areas in Qal'at Dizah and Qasabat Khalifan. Another General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, said Iraqi troops destroyed a gas pipeline and oil tanks in Abadan and Khosrowabad.

Tehran radio carried a statement issued by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announcing that it has decided to wage a "long-term commando-type war" against Iraq and that by doing so it has accepted the mission of spreading the Islamic revolution throughout the world.

Iran Domestic Affairs

KUNA, citing ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, reported that Mansur Farhang, political adviser to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, has protested the refusal of the Foreign Ministry to issue a diplomatic passport to a delegate nominated by Bani-Sadr to represent Iran at a Korean Workers Party Conference in the DPRK. According to the agency, the Foreign Ministry based its decision on a ruling made by Prime Minister Raja'i that "all official letters and programs" initiated by the president must be "approved and endorsed" by the prime minister. KUNA also noted that Bani-Sadr had been prevented by the Ministry of National Guidance from inviting an American journalist to Iran. Only a week earlier Bani-Sadr had called the "independent decisions" taken by the Raja'i Cabinet "illegal," warned that he would not tolerate such "irregularities and illegal practices" and decreed that all "letters and official circulars" issued by the prime minister must be routed through his office.

Pahlavi Succession

According to AFP, Prince Reza Pahlavi, in a 31 October ceremony in Cairo, laid claim to the Peacock Throne, declaring himself "ready to assume his responsibilities and obligations as shah." AFP said no members of the royal family or official representatives were present for the occasion, which was put on record by a television crew and three photographers.

Lebanon

In an interview with Lebanese television, reported by the Voice of Lebanon, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said President Carter has not given Lebanon the "importance and dimensions it deserves" and that his administration considers Lebanon a "pawn on the Middle East chessboard." According to an AFP report on the interview, Butrus also declared that he believes Lebanon has succeeded in making the administration aware that the Lebanese problem is something "worth being concerned about."

Israel

In a press conference on 30 October upon his return from Egypt, President Yitzhaq Navon reiterated that his discussions with President Anwar as-Sadat on the autonomy issue were not negotiations but an "exchange of views" in which he stated the Israeli position and "clarified some points." He added that he had returned with an Egyptian "suggestion on a particular point" relating to the autonomy negotiations that he will convey to the prime minister.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 213 *31 October 1980*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Nonaligned Mediation Efforts Between Iran, Iraq Reported A 1
[Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH 28 Oct]
Habib Chatti Appeals to Iranian Leaders To Respond A 1
Chatti Interview A 2
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 30 Oct]
Klibi Interviewed on Arab World Issues A 4
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 28 Oct]
'Arafat, Military Council Discuss Lebanese Events [VOP] A 7
'Arafat Sends Message to Cyprus International Conference [VOP] A 8
Reply Cable [VOP] A 9
PLO Issues Statement on Deported Mayors 29 Oct [VOP] A 9
Communique Issued on 'Arafat Visit to Yugoslavia A 10
[cross-reference]

ARABIAN PENINSULA

QATAR

Cabinet Meets, Makes Decisions 29 Oct C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Khalid Denounces Al-Qadhdhafi for Offending Islam C 1
Libyan Students in UK Reportedly Denounce Al-Qadhdhafi C 2

PDRY

Industry Minister Leaves for Talks in USSR C 2

EGYPT

Navon Meets Assembly Speaker, Leaves Egypt 30 Oct D 1
Talib Meeting D 1
Cairo Departure D 1
Prince As-Sanusi Asks As-Sadat To 'Liberate Libya' D 1

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communiques 30-31 Oct E 1
Communique No 113 E 1
Communique No 114 E 2
Envoys From Pakistan, Cuba Arrive To Discuss War E 2
Pakistani Foriegn Minister E 2
Cuban Foreign Minister E 2
Contacts Between Iran, U.S. on Arms, Hostages Reported E 3
Arms Talks E 3
'Political Deal' E 3
Rights Society Urges Waldheim To Stop Iranian Bombing E 3
Libya Issues Warrants for Arrest of Plane Crew E 4

JORDAN

Badran Receives Arab League's Chedli Klibi 30 Oct F 1

Officials Meet With Romanian Official on Cooperation F 1
Prime Minister Reception F 1
Transport Minister Meeting F 1
Industry, Trade Minister Meeting F 1

LEBANON

Butrus Comments on Carter's Attitude Toward Lebanon G 1
Al-Jumayyil Calls for Military Unity With Liberals G 1
Army Force Deployed in 'Ayn Ar-Rummanah 31 Oct G 1

SYRIA

Arab Parliamentary Union Issues Statement 30 Oct H 1
Ba'th Party Official Receives Bulgarian Delegation H 1
Sources Report Al-Qadhdhafi Visit Postponed H 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Delivers State of Nation Address I 1
'Measures' Pertaining to Former President Lifted I 2

LIBYA

Commentary Attacks 'Agent Regimes,' Severance of Ties I 2

MAURITANIA

Foreign Minister on Sahara Conflict, Domestic Issues I 3
[Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI 20-26 Oct]

MOROCCO

Boucetta To Ask USSR To Put Pressure on Libya I 5
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 29 Oct]

ISRAEL

President Navon Interviewed on Visit to Egypt N 1
Begin Terms President Navon's Trip 'Real Success' N 3
Editor Reports As-Sadat, Mubarak Praise of Navon Visit N 4
[POST 31 Oct]
Begin Submits Autonomy Document to Knesset Committee N 5
Sinai Withdrawal Dependent Upon Supervision Accord N 6
['AL HAMISHMAR 30 Oct]
Libyan Mirage Aircraft Reportedly Sent to Syria N 7
[MA'ARIV 31 Oct]
Iraq Reportedly Supporting Jordan's Anti-PLO Moves N 7

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Cuban Vice Minister Arrives for 5-Day Visit R 1

KENYA

President Warns Politicians Seeking To Disrupt Peace R 1

SOMALIA

Tripoli Reports Somali Front Statement on Defections R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Ahidjo Outlines Basis of New Development Plan S 1

CHAD

New OAU Subcommittee Summit To Be Held in Lome S 1
Kamougue participation S 1
AFP Interviews Libyan Soldeier Captured by FAN Forces S 2

GABON

President Dacko Arrives on 2-Day Working Visit S 2
Bongo Issues Decrees on Minor Cabinet Reshuffle S 2

ZAIRE

Mobutu Criticizes Belgium for Sheltering Zaire Critics S 3
Prisoners Freed, Sentences Reduced by President S 4

WEST AFRICA

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Vice President Discusses Ties With Spain, Foreign Policy T 1
[Madrid ABC 26 Oct]

THE GAMBIA

Communique Announces Break in Relations With Libya T 2

LIBERIA

Weh Syen Cautions Military Leaders on Proper Role T 2

MALI

Algerian Party Delegation Concludes Visit T 3

BRIEFS

Cape Verde Harvest; GDR Loan to Ghana; Soviet-Guinean Commission T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Visits Southern Province, Criticizes Savimbi U 1

COMORO ISLANDS

Assembly Supports President, Approves Budget U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Ciskei To Hold Referendum 4 Dec on Independence U 2
Cabinet Sets Guidelines for National States Consolidation U 2

NONALIGNED MEDIATION EFFORTS BETWEEN IRAN, IRAQ REPORTED

LD301349 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 28 Oct 80 p 1

[Jasir al-Jasir report: "'Arafat to Resume His Mediation Shortly"]

[Excerpt] Baghdad--After several contacts had been held in New York between member states of the nonaligned group's coordination office, it was decided that Yasir 'Arafat should continue efforts on behalf of the nonaligned countries and of the Islamic countries to revive mediation between Iraq and Iran.

AL-JAZIRAH has learned from a highly reliable Yugoslav source that the nonaligned states' coordination office held a meeting in New York at which it was decided to charge the PLO chairman to conduct the necessary contacts in order to choose members of a delegation that will carry out mediation and contacts between Iraq and Iran. Accordingly, Yasir 'Arafat is paying visits to and holding contacts with the countries concerned in order to form a high-level and broadly representative delegation.

AL-JAZIRAH has also learned that Yugoslavia has supported this initiative. This was evident in the Yugoslav prime minister's welcome speech for Yasir 'Arafat at a reception in Belgrade last night. Also Cuba, the current chairman of the nonaligned group, has shown willingness to participate in such efforts. As for India, which also supports such efforts, it has hastened to send to Baghdad a representative of Mrs Indira Gandhi who was received by President Saddam Husayn after holding intensive talks with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

A well-informed Yugoslav source in Baghdad told AL-JAZIRAH'S correspondent that the nonaligned group's coordination office which held a special meeting in New York was attended by the Iraqi and the Iranian delegates as member of the coordination office. Both delegates agreed in principle on taking this step.

The Yugoslav source said the mediation would be a continuation of and be complementary to the good offices of the Islamic Conference Organization on the grounds that the organization's member states constitute 90 percent of the nonaligned group.

HABIB CHATTI APPEALS TO IRANIAN LEADERS TO RESPOND

LD302012 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1920 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Jidda, 30 Oct (SPA)--Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization has appealed to the Iranian leaders to give an official reply to the organization's proposal made earlier in October which provides for the expansion of the good-will mission and its visit to Tehran and Baghdad.

INA reported today that Chatti sent a cable to Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni and Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr stressing the Islamic world's concern over the developments between the two Muslim countries Iran and Iraq, and its firm and strong support for the good-will initiative which the Islamic Conference Organization is undertaking. He also told them that the Islamic world insists that an end be made to this tragedy which is exhausting the energies of both Muslim peoples.

It is recalled that the proposal to increase the number of members of the good-will committee provides for the inclusion of six more Muslim heads of states. The committee comprises Pakistani President Ziaul Haq and Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti.

Chatti met with President Bani-Sadr and Ayatollah Khomeyni 19 and 20 October at Dezful and Tehran respectively, and submitted to them proposals for resolving the Iranian-Iraqi conflict.

Chatti Interview

LD310933 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Oct 80 pp 1, 2

[Report on an interview given to Yunis Muhammad Ishaq by Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti in Jidda—date not specified]

[Text] Jidda--Islamic Concerence Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti has stated that Iraq has agreed to the idea of the formation of a mediation committee consisting of the heads of a number of Islamic states. In an exclusive interview to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Chatti pointed out that his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn was fruitful and that the Iraqi president had emphasized his country's desire that the Iraqi-Iranian war should be the last crisis between the two countries.

Chatti added: Iraq has shown a great desire to reach a solution and to achieve a clear, detailed and final agreement that will meticulously define the borders between the two countries and include a committment by the two sides to respect each other's sovereignty, provided that this agreement will be based on the lessons drawn from the agreements concluded between the two countries centuries ago. He added that the Iraqis had told him that they will not withdraw from Iran unless they obtain guarantees to achieve the aforesaid aid.

Chatti explained that his visit to Tehran and his meeting with the Iranian officials, particularly Imam Khomeyni and President Bani-Sadr were useful. He said that an atmosphere of frankness prevailed during the discussions and that an atmosphere of hospitality and appreciation prevailed during his visit. He said that the Iranian officials had expressed increasing interest in his task. He said that he had suggested sending the Islamic Committee to mediate between the two countries but that before he [Chatti] left Tehran, President Bani-Sadr promised to give him Iran's reply on this subject as soon as possible. He said that he is still waiting for the reply.

He emphasized that his talks in the Iranian and Iraqi capitals expressed the feelings of all the Islamic states. He said: During my tour, I stressed a number of important points for ending the war between the two countries. The most important of these points are:

The need to work for a cease-fire in order to halt bloodshed and put an end to the losses.

The continuation of the war certainly constitutes a danger to the two countries and the Gulf area and also gives an opportunity to the big powers to intervene in this important and sensitive part of the w rld--a matter which exposes world peace to danger.

A cease-fire would be a service to the Islamic nation and would rescue Islamic solidarity which has been threatened since the eruption of the battles between the two states because of the divisions it could create, God forbid, within the Islamic nation.

In this war, the Islamic nation has a responsibility that goes beyond the borders and interests of the two countries, according to the Almighty's words: "Should two groups of believers fight...."

The organization will sincerely seek to carry out this responsibility. It profoundly believes that it can carry out this task provided that the two parties cooperate with it.

Replying to a question as to whether he expects the committee to succeed in its task or whether it would face difficulties, Chatti said that his expectations now do not go beyond moderate optimism because the officials in Iran believe that their reception of this committee would constitute a change in their attitude that they should not negotiate before the Iraqi forces withdraw from Iranian territory. I tried to convince them that their reception of the proposed committee does not mean entering into direct negotiations with Iraq but would be for the purpose of creating an atmosphere for negotiations and preparing common ground to be proposed by the committee and approved by the two sides. He said: As to what extent the Iranian officials will be convinced by this idea, only time can tell.

Regarding the committee's plan of action, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization said: There is no specific program so far to end the fighting and open a dialogue between the two countries. He added that there are proposals and ideas that could lead toward this end. He said: It is not yet the time to announce these proposals and ideas to the press and to the news media because the committee has not yet met. I will keep these ideas for the committee. The publication of these ideas could affect the success of the committee's endeavors and obstruct the efforts that are being exerted. In the event of the committee approving of these ideas which will be presented to it by the secretariat, it will communicate them to the two countries concerned.

The Islamic Conference Organization secretary general denied having a clear idea of what the next step would be should the Iranian Government's reaction be negative. He emphasized that in such an event it would be necessary for the present mission to continue its efforts under the supervision of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization--the mission which has been assigned this task by the Islamic foreign ministers conference during its recent meeting in New York. This mission should continue its contacts with the two disputing countries.

Chatti described the task of the mediation committee as delicate. He said that in its new task, the committee will concentrate on holding the necessary contacts with the two countries and discussing fundamental disputes between them. It will also make every effort to bring about a cease-fire and establish peace and security between the two countries to spare the blood of the Muslims and safeguard their interests. He pointed out that the said committee will try to find common ground for the two sides to end the fighting and start negotiation and then setting up a framework for observing and applying the cease-fire. However, the formation of this committee requires the approval of the two sides because it would be useless to form a committee unless it would definitely be received and cooperated with in a friendly manner.

He went on to say: I will not be divulging a secret if I say very frankly that our efforts met with difficulties in their early stages, especially because each of the two disputing sides had adhered to its own position and did not wish to depart one iota from it, in addition to the fact that each party accused the other of interfering in its internal affairs and held it responsible for trying to overthrow its regime and for arming and dispatching saboteurs. For this reason, our task requires patience and perseverence. This is why we deemed it useful to have some of the heads of the Islamic states participate with us so that our efforts will be more comprehensive, more far-reaching and more useful.

The secretary general expressed his regret over the continuation of this war and his feeling of bitterness over this war which came at a time when the Islamic nation occupied a prominent place in the field of international policy and began to achieve successes in one of the most important issues, at least in the diplomatic sphere. By this I mean the application by all states and for the first time of a UN resolution connected with the Palestinian issue, particularly Jerusalem, in the wake of Israel's proclamation of Jerusalem as its united capital. Israel is now preparing to annex the Golan. Habib Chatti said: This war comes at a time when the Islamic nation is endeavoring to mobilize world public opinion to win the support of Western Europe with regard to the issues of Palestine and Afghanistan, especially when there are signs that the Soviet Union is determined to remain in Afghanistan and disregarding the Islamic foreign ministers' conference resolutions and the UN resolutions in this respect.

Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti last night met with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and presented to him the results of his good offices in Baghdad and Tehran within the framework of the task assigned to him by the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

KLIBI INTERVIEWED ON ARAB WORLD ISSUES

LD301655 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Oct 80 p 3

[Interview given to Mahir 'Uthman by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in Tunis--date not given]

[Text] Tunis--[Question] You met with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington last week. You had also met with him in London before. What subjects did you discuss?

[Answer] I met with Lord Carrington for the first time some months ago. The meeting was very good and was characterized by openness and harmony even though our views were not completely identical, which is very normal. During the second meeting, current issues were reviewed and our views were close. We promised each other to remain in contact on new developments in the area--developments that concern the two sides.

[Question] Did you feel that Britain's attitude continues to be one of a desire to work toward the Palestinain question via the EEC and not to make a decision ahead of the EEC?

[Answer] You ought to address your question, regarding Britain's attitude, to Lord Carrington because what I might say might not please him. However, it appeared to me--and I could be wrong--that he would rather have Britain play its role via the EEC and have the efforts directed toward convincing the United States [to change its attitude] because he believes that the United States is the basic instrument of action in the Middle East--that is, American public opinion and the American Government.

[Question] You have returned home from your first visit to Algeria since becoming secretary general--what were the most important subjects you discussed with President Chadli Bendjedid?

[Answer] I visited Algeria in the wake of the Al-Asnam tragedy which shocked the Algerian society and all the fraternal and friendly states. I had sent a mission there to participate in coordinating the Arab efforts and aid. The mission was headed by Brother As'ad al-As'ad. However, my visit was scheduled some time ago and it was part of my contacts with the rest of the Arab governments. I attached great importance to this visit because I had not yet met with His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid.

It was important for me to seek his opinion on a number of subjects, particularly those connected with the current circumstances which are fraught with new dangers and developments, before some very important Arab meetings are held. We are now preparing for the 11th Arab summit which is scheduled to be held in Amman toward the end of November. The meeting was really an occasion to review a number of important subjects which concern the Arab nation in general as well as the great Maghreb.

[Question] Is the league playing the role of mediator in the Saharan issue? And, is there a tendency toward agreement between Algeria and Morocco?

[Answer] Regarding the league's role, one cannot say that the league is qualified to mediate because the two parties have since long resorted to the OAU. Since the OAU has been following this issue, it is inevitable that it should continue its endeavors. However, since I assumed the responsibilities of secretary general, I have been following the Saharan issue with extreme interest in order to create the atmosphere that would lead to improving the situation and finding a solution that would be generally satisfactory. Signs that the tension is easing have begun to appear in the tone of the officials' statements. This easing of tension could have a good effect in the search for a suitable solution, though one must not be overly optimistic. We must be patient and wait until the situation becomes ripe for an acceptable solution through concerted efforts and the influence of time and events.

[Question] The Iranian prime minister has visited Algeria. The Arab League has been coordinating with Habib Chatti [secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization] regarding the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. During your visit to Algeria, did you discuss this subject, especially since an Iraqi-Iranian agreement had been concluded in Algiers and Algeria is looking after Iranian interests in the United States?

[Answer] The league is following with great anxiety the war that is now taking place between Iraq and Iran. The league has not been able to play a direct role in this connection because one of the parties [to the conflict] is not Arab. The league is basically an Arab organization and it is not qualified to play the role it aspires to play--the role of mediator and of using its good offices. Nevertheless, we have had intensive contacts from the beginning with the Arab states and the various sides which can play a positive role. As for the Islamic Conference Organization, I have asked our office in New York to place itself at the disposal of our friend Habib Chatti. We are also in contact with the United Nations. Therefore, we are following up this issue which is becoming more complicated each passing day. We hope that these efforts will succeed in ending the conflict as soon as possible. This was one of the most important subjects I had discussed with President Chadli Bendjedid and [Algerian] Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia. I do not believe that the Algerian Government has learned anything new through the Iranian prime minister's visit to Algeria.

[Question] It is being predicted that the prospective summit conference might not be held in November because of the current Arab situation. How true are these predictions and how many states have accepted the invitation to convene the conference?

[Answer] These rumors are baseless. It is a mere possibility which some newsmen have been reiterating. It is no more than an assumption. As for the need for convening this conference, I believe that we ought to accustom ourselves to observing such rendezvous whatever the circumstances.

The summit is an instrument to resolve our momentous, serious issues which we might not otherwise be able to resolve at other levels. For this reason, I hope that the summit will be convened on schedule and that the Arab nation will be able to control the Arab homeland's current difficulties and problems so that we will then carry out our duties and pursue joint Arab action on a new solid basis and with totally clear vision.

[Question] During the forthcoming meeting in Amman of the seven-sided committee which is charged with the preparation of the political strategy, will the [Arab League] general secretariat present general proposals in this connection?

[Answer] The Amman meeting was decided during the meeting of the Arab economy and foreign ministers. The economic plan was on the agenda of that meeting, but the foreign ministers decided at the time that in view of the current Arab and international situation, it was necessary to draw up a political strategy in addition to the economic strategy, several Arab states made a proposal to this effect. Therefore, these states are supposed to present working papers for discussion.

[Question] Regarding the economic strategy, thought is being given to a comprehensive Arab economic plan which will undoubtedly be a basic topic during the summit conference. It is known that you personally attach great importance to this plan. What are the outlines of this plan?

[Answer] The Arab economic strategy plan is no longer a mere idea or an ambiguous plan; it is now a document based on elaborate studies and the product of work carried out by a large number of Arab experts of the highest standard. The preparation of these studies took a long time. High officials in the general secretariat participated with the Arab experts in the preparation of this plan. The plan was submitted to the economy ministers during their meeting in Tunis and was approved. It was then submitted to the economy and foreign ministers during their joint meeting in Amman last July and was also approved. It now remains for it to be submitted to the summit conference for final approval.

The plan's basic objectives is to coordinate development work in the Arab world so as to quicken the pace of development in all the Arab countries in order to bridge the gap between some Arab states and others. The plan is to pool the Arab resources for the benefit of everybody.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, you visited Lebanon some time ago. You were scheduled to make an Arab tour to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Do you still intend to make this tour? And what do you expect from it?

[Answer] During my recent visit to Beirut, I was asked to visit a number of Arab countries to make them feel the situation in Lebanon and the most important problems it is now facing. But the Iraqi-Iranian war erupted and I was compelled to defer the tour. I will seize the opportunity of the seven-sided committee meeting in Amman to carry out this task directly, until I am able to visit other countries.

[Question] On 5 November, official and nonofficial committees will discuss in Tunis the draft of the Arab League's new charter prior to submitting it to the summit conference. What new things are proposed in it.

[Answer] This charter consists of two sections. One section contains the principles that govern joint Arab action; the other section, which is more important, deals with the reorganization of Arab action through the general secretariat and all the Arab organizations.

By this I mean administrative and financial organization. It is necessary for the states to approve of new regulations after making the necessary alterations. What the general secretariat has proposed is only a plan on which the states have a decisive word. I hope that after all the necessary alterations have been made, the new regulations will be approved so that the general secretariat and the Arab organizations will proceed on sound basis to coordinate their work and adopt the modern ways and means as used in all international organizations.

[Question] Pessimism now prevails in the official and nonofficial circles about the current Arab situation in view of the increasing disagreements in many parts of the Arab homeland. Mr Secretary General, what can the general secretariat do to check the dangers of the current situation?

[Answer] I have been directly concerned with Arab affairs for over 20 years. I participated with the Tunisian delegation in the first summit that was held in 1964 in Cairo. Since that time, we have been hearing at every session and every meeting that "the situation is serious and delicate and the Arab nation has never experienced a more serious and dangerous situation." These expressions are always repeated.

It is natural for clouds to accumulate in special circumstances during the peoples' march. The Arab people have experienced extremely delicate and serious circumstances for decades. The important thing is for them to remain united in their hearts, tendencies and resolution to overcome all challenges. What we fear is disagreement and the dispersal of efforts. Disagreement of views is something natural. Generally, states always disagree on certain matters because each one of them has its own interests, sovereignty and views. It is natural for them to disagree.

[Question] On 21 October, a meeting was held in the Arab League between Arab and European groups on the Arab-European dialogue. What progress has been made in the arrangements for resuming this dialogue?

[Answer] The contacts we are making with our European friends are good, friendly and positive because all the formal difficulties that stood in the way of this dialogue have now vanished. We will be holding a meeting in Luxembourg to prep[illegible] for an expanded meeting at the level of foreign ministers that is expected to be held early next year. This is a sign that the dialogue will be resumed after a short time and in a normal manner. It will deal with the subjects that concern the two sides. In the wake of the Venice statement and the various initiatives taken by the European Community, we can hope for further rapprochement and closer Arab-European views through this dialogue.

[Question] Did you meet with any European objection to the PLO leading the Arab side?

[Answer] I have not heard of any reservations from the European side. We had repeatedly told them so in order to make sure that they have heard that the PLO will be chairing the session [as published]. They have heard that and did not object to it.

'ARAFAT, MILITARY COUNCIL DISCUSS LEBANESE EVENTS

NC301930 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1845 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar this afternoon presided over a meeting of the Higher Military Council of the Palestinian revolution.

It has been learned that at this meeting, the latest developments which have occurred on the Lebanese scene, including the military escalation and the [words indistinct] in southern Lebanon, were reviewed. The conferees also discussed the isolationist moves which are being made at the behest of the Zionist enemy.

The council has made and implemented a number of decisions and measures to confront the situation and all its possibilities.

'ARAFAT SENDS MESSAGE TO CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

NC301552 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1132 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text of Abu 'Ammar message to members of the Gulf conference, members of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and the presidium of the Arab Peoples' Conference, meeting in Cyprus--date not given]

[Excerpts] On the occasion of your important conference it pleases me to convey to you, on behalf of myself, my brother members of the Executive Committee of the PLO and the struggling Palestinian people and their heroic revolutionaries, sincerest greetings and good wishes for the success of your conference being held on the questions of our Arab nation--and its central question, Palestine--and Afro-Asian questions of common interest.

Brothers and friends, allow me to convey my thanks and gratitude to the friendly Cypriot people who have sponsored your conference as an expression of the Cypriot stand--the government and people, and nationalist, progressive and democratic forces--which has always supported the struggle of our people and nation.

Your conference is holding its sessions under the shadow of hot and successive developments to which our Arab nation has been subjected.

We must deeply realize how much danger there is in the regrettable war between our brothers in Iran and Iraq and the overt and covert U.S. attempts to exploit it and enlarge the bleeding wound with the aim of striking the two powers and consequently creating areas of conflicts that will expand to cover the entire region.

While understanding the seriousness of the events taking place between our brothers on the eastern flank of our great Arab homeland, we have made and continue to make intensive and continuous efforts to contain the fire and end the bloodshed and economic destruction which is affecting us all.

As you know our current efforts in this connection through the nonaligned movement and through the good-will mission, which has been set up within this framework, are part of our persistent, sincere and responsible work to stop the fighting and spare the bloodshed.

Brothers, from our position in the frontline trenches and daily violent clashes with the enemies of our nation and the enemies of our area, we urge all nationalist and progressive forces in our world to support our efforts for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war and sparing bloodshed in the interest of the whole area.

Brothers and friends, we in the Palestinian revolution view the explosive situation in our area with a thorough, strategic and responsible perspective. Under all circumstances, which in most cases are difficult, we do not lose our faith and conviction that the future will be bright for us and our coming generations.

The future will be bright, God willing, for our people, who are fighting with principles, commitment and honesty for their main, just cause--the Palestinian question.

Reply Cable

NC301942 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1845 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar today received a reply telegram from the Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference now convening in Nicosia.

In their telegram the conferees greet Abu 'Ammar for having sent a telegram to the conference in which Abu 'Ammar affirmed his solidarity with the Arab people in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf against imperialism. The conferees also lauded the efforts which the Palestine Liberation Organization is exerting to halt the Iraqi-Iranian war. They condemned the capitulationist autonomy plan and all the liquidation plans.

In their telegram the conferees also greet the steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples under the leadership of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement.

In concluding their telegram the conferees emphasize the right of the Palestinian people to set up their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

PLO ISSUES STATEMENT ON DEPORTED MAYORS 29 OCT

NC301911 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1622 GMT 30 Oct 80

["Text" of statement issued on 29 October 1980 by the PLO Executive Committee on the issue of Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Hasan Milhim, mayors of Hebron and Halhul, and Shaykh Rajab at-Tamimi, Hebron Shari'ah judge]

[Text] On 20 October the Zionist occupation authorities formed a military committee under the pretext of hearing the defense pleas of Brothers Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Milhim, the mayors of Hebron and Halhul, who were unjustly and arbitrarily deported from the homeland on 2 May 1980 by the occupation authorities. Furthermore, the occupation authorities barred the return to Shaykh Rajab at-Tamimi, who was deported with the two mayors.

The occupation authorities have issued a new decision confirming the decision to deport the three brothers. The occupation authorities have thus disregarded the three strugglers' legitimate right to return to their homeland. The occupation authorities have also challenged the resolution passed by the UN General Assembly calling for their return. These authorities have also defied the numerous appeals which have been made by international establishments and organizations and which have all called for the return of the three brothers.

The PLO Executive Committee wants to affirm to the whole world a number of facts related to the deportation of the three brothers. At any rate this deportation is a part of the recurring deportation processes which the occupation authorities have carried out against the thousands of the sons of our people and of their strugglers.

1. The deportation of the three brothers came within the context of a systematic and repressive Zionist campaing. The objective of this campaign has been and still is to expel from the occupied homeland the patriotic and influential personalities who are practicing their legitimate right to resist the occupation and to check its liquidation plans. First and foremost of these plans is the projected self-adminstration [idarah dhatiyah]:

Within this context, we remind the world of the assassination attempts which were made by the occupation authorities on the lives of the mayors of Nabulus, Ramallah and Al-Birah. We also remind the world of the savage and repressive operations which were carried out against our people who have staged their general uprising to protest the crime of the assassination attempts perpetrated against the mayors and the deportation crimes, the latest of which has been the deportation of Al-Qawasimah, Milhim and Shaykh at-Tamimi.

2. The farce of the sham and fascist trials, which has been organized by the occupation authorities for Brothers Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Milhim and through which the occupation authorities have tried to deceive world public opinion by making it believe the lie about the existence of Zionist justice, will deceive nobody. The reason is the nature of this racist, fascist and terrorist enemy. Furthermore, the sole law which governs their obnoxious practices against our people and our strugglers is the law of the jungle and of black racism.

Our Palestinian people are exercising their legitimate right to resist occupation. This right has been guaranteed by the United Nations and has been supported by the great majority of the world's states and peoples.

Our Palestinian people will pin no illusory hopes on the delusions generated by the fabricated Zionist judiciary's theatrics. On the contrary, our people will intensify their national struggle and they will escalate this struggle at all its levels to repel the occupation and to end its arbitrariness, injustice and coercion. Our people will escalate this national struggle so that it would achieve the national and just rights of our people, who are committed to their revolution and who are waging an authentic struggle under their revolution's triumphant banner.

3. The most rudimentary right of the Palestinian human being is to stay on his soil and in his homeland. Furthermore, the most elementary right of the Palestinian deportees is to return to their homeland. In accordance with this just principle, we urge the world, including all its organizations and establishments, to dedicate its utmost potentials toward supporting the just cause of our brother deportees. We also urge the world to confirm their legitimate right to return to their homeland and to impose deterrent sanctions against the Zionist occupation authorities, which are daily disregarding the simplest humanitarian and cultural practices, traditions and laws and the resolutions passed by the United Nations and its establishments.

The PLO Executive Committee salutes our great struggling people for their splendid patriotic stance of solidarity with the brother deportees. The committee also salutes the valiant challenge posed by our people to the Zionist machine of repression and their great confrontation of the sinful occupation authorities and the racist measures which they are taking against our people and homeland.

The Executive Committee calls on all the segments of the people to continue their strong and courageous resistance to repel the despicable occupation and to perpetuate the right to return [to the homeland], to self-determination and to the establishment of a national and independent state on our national soil. This shall be a revolution until victory!

[Signed] The PLO Executive Committee

COMMUNQIUE ISSUED ON 'ARAFAT VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

For the Belgrade POLITIKA report on the joint communique issued on the 26-28 October visit to Yugoslavia of Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, see the Yugoslavia section of the 31 October Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page I 4.

QATAR

CABINET MEETS, MAKES DECISIONS 29 OCT

GF291245 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Excerpt] His highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, chaired the ordinary weekly Cabinet session at Ad-Dawha Palace this morning. The Cabinet made the following decisions:

1. Approving a commercial and technical cooperative agreement between Qatar and Australia.

2. Approving an agreement between Qatar and the Australian Wheat Council on importing wheat.

3. Approving the modification of some regulations of the Arab Company for Petroleum Services. This modification pertains to the provision of the agreement pact. The company will be exempt from all taxes and fees in the member countries.

4. Approving the establishment of two branch offices for the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry in Al-Khawr and Madinat ash-Shamal and allocating the budget for this purpose.

SAUDI ARABIA

KHALID DENOUNCES AL-QADHDHAFI FOR OFFENDING ISLAM

LD301946 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today addressed a group of pilgrims about Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's attacks on Islam.

The king said: I cannot but say that there can be no strength except from God and God suffices for us [Koranic verse], for He is the best agent in respect of this sedition caused by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. By God, we would not have indulged ourselves in this matter had Colonel al-Qadhdhafi spoken on matters that affect us. But he spoke about one of the basic pillars of Islam. How I wish, the king said, he had criticized me personally, or the Saudi royal family or the Saudi Arabian Kingdom. For then we, and I myself, would have taken the matter lightly. But his daring to encroach on the Islamic faith prevented us from keeping silent, for this issue affects the Islamic faith. It is the duty of us all, peoples and rulers, to save it from mockery. It is our duty to defend the faith and to stand up against anyone who seeks to detract from it. In my opinion, we must save it from altercation.

When matters affect the arch-prophet, it is our duty to stop at our limits and to respect and honor the messenger of God, for God has honored him by choosing him as the last of prophets and messengers.

My personal advice, the king said, is that we must refrain from involving the name of the messenger or his blessed life story in any matter of politics or propaganda, and from talking about his teachings ignorantly.

You all know, the king said, that we have been exposed to a great deal of criticism and talk and attacks by people such as Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. We might get such criticism from others after him. But we do not pay any attention to that. We always prefer to keep silent for the sake of preserving unity in the ranks.

But now that the matter affects the Islamic faith, by God, we will not keep quiet or maintain silence about showing the truth, whatever it takes, until God establishes what is right and we refute all fabrications and lies abainst Islam whether by Muslims or others. We cannot make a truce with anyone in this regard, nor can we be courteous.

My heart bleeds with agony at this encroachment on Islam in this critical stage which demands from us all to stand firmly, truly and faithfully to defend it against ties and intrigues and other evils harbored by the enemies of religion.

I am sorry to see Islam attacked from among us. Whatever the mistakes and slips of tongue, one cannot forgive them in matters of teachings and Islamic faith. It is the duty of anyone who commits such an error or a slip of tongue to return quickly to the fold of religion and to repent truly.

The king added: I cannot but say that God suffices and He disposes of all matters. We belong to God and to Him we shall return.

God, save us from a sedition which will not be of benefit even to those among us who have committed oppression. There is no strength other than from God.

LIBYAN STUDENTS IN UK REPORTEDLY DENOUNCE AL-QADHDHAFI

LD301052 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0955 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] London, 30 Oct (SPA)--Libyan students in Britain have denounced Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's attack on Muslims, Islam and Islamic sanctities, and also his false allegation about the tolerant Islamic faith. After their visit today to the Saudi Embassy and the Saudi cultural attache in London, the Libyan students expressed deep indignation and annoyance at what the situation has come to in Libya as a result of Al-Qadhdhafi's domination and his squandering of the resources of the Libyan people in the service of the enemies of the Muslim nation, thus antagonizing the Arab and Muslim states.

The Libyan students also disavowed the actions and repeated crimes of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. They said they were prepared to give up their Libyan passports and also the allowances they get from the current regime in Libya because they are receiving this through illicit means from a person who has renounced his religion and who has insulted Islam and Muslims' beliefs and sanctities; he has also drifted behind subversive principles and has appointed himself a loyal guard of the enemies of Islam and the Muslims.

PDRY

INDUSTRY MINISTER LEAVES FOR TALKS IN USSR

LD301850 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 80 EA

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, candidate member of the Central Committee, industry minister and head of the petroleum and minerals corporation, left Aden at noon today for Moscow on an official visit to the Soviet Union that will last several days.

In a statement he made to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY, Brother Ba Jammal said that his visit is within the framework of the exchange of visits and experiences and joint economic relations between the two friendly countries. He said that he will hold discussions with the Soviet comrades on a number of important issues concerning the development of the industrial, petroleum and minerals sector and ways of promoting this sector.

NAVON MEETS ASSEMBLY SPEAKER, LEAVES EGYPT 30 OCT

Talib Meeting

NC301345 Cairo Mena in English 1310 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 30 Oct (MENA)--Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Sufi Abu Talib said today, following his meeting with Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon which lasted for about an hour, that the meeting dealt with reviewing the political, economic, and democratic regime in Egypt.

President Navon showed admiration of the system of the new Shura Council and expressed satisfaction and happiness over what he has seen in Egypt, adding that what he has seen personally exceeded what he had heard or expected as regards the extent of the Egyptian people's support and allegiance to the leadership of President as-Sadat and their love for peace.

The Israeli president affirmed that the most important means for narrowing view points as regards disputable issues are dialogue and the exchange of visits.

Cairo Departure

NC301612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 30 Oct (MENA)--The Israeli president and his wife left Cairo this evening for Israel concluding a 5-day official visit at the invitation of President Anwar as-Sadat.

They were seen off at the airport by President Anwar as-Sadat, Mrs Jihan as-Sadat, Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhui ad-Din, the other deputy ministers, the ministers, other senior state officials, Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada, and the counselor at the Israeli Embassy in Cairo.

Israeli President Navon arrived at Cairo airport at 1700 this evening. After shaking hands with those seeing him off, he inspected the guard of honor with President Anwar as-Sadat. The Israeli and Egyptian national anthems were then played to a 21-gun salute. President Anwar as-Sadat then said goodbye to his guest by shaking hands.

PRINCE AS-SANUSI ASKS AS-SADAT TO 'LIBERATE LIBYA'

NC301453 Cairo MENA in English 1245 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 30 Oct (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat received today a cable from Libyan Prince 'Abdallah 'Abid as-Sanusi [which] expressed in his name and on behalf of the Libyan community in Egypt full support for the president and asking him to liberate Libya from atheism and communism under the rule of atheist Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In his cable, Prince 'Abdallah 'Abid as-Sanusi told President as-Sadat that the Libyan people are living under the yoke of humiliation and indignity imposed by the rule of atheist Al-Qadhdhafi and stated that there would not be after the almighty God none to help the Libyan people out from this situation but President as-Sadat who achieved the victory of October and liberated Sinai.

"We ask your help for liberating your neighbours from atheism and communism in order that the Libyan people obtain liberity and full sovereignty," the cable read in part.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 30-31 OCT

Communique No 113

JN301739 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Communique No 113 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 30 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With unbounded faith in the right of our people and nation to liberate our land and waters from the racist Persian aggressors and with deep confidence and high morale, our valiant armed forces continued this afternoon to chase the enemy and tighten the noose around his pockets in the operational sectors, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment:

The ground forces: last night, 29 October 1980, an enemy force tried to attack our units in the Qasr-e Shirin sector. Our forward units intercepted and repulsed it, inflicting heavy losses as follows:

Known enemy losses: 64 killed and a large amount of light weapons and hardware [captured].

Our losses: 38 martyrs.

Known enemy losses in the southern sector of the theater of operations:

In personnel: Four killed.

In equipment: One vehicle with a 106-mm gun was destroyed; three vehicles loaded with charlatan Khomeyni's guards were destroyed; one vehicle loaded with mortars and light weapons was seized when our forces searched the large number of civilian cars leaving Abadan.

Our losses in the southern sector: one martyr.

The air forces:

Enemy planes raided civilian targets today. They were repulsed by our ground resistance, which downed several planes, as follows:

At 0904 and 1125 enemy aircraft raided Qal'at Dizah, aiming at residential areas.

At 1257 enemy aircraft raided Qasabat Khalifan in Irbil Governorate.

Our losses as a result of the enemy raids: One martyr and two wounded in Qal'at Dizah and one martyr and two wounded in Qasabat Khalifan. All are civilians.

Our ground resistance shot down two F-5 planes in the area of Qal'at Dizah.

At noon today, our planes raided enemy concentrations and the Khomeyni guards in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab sector, scoring direct hits.

Our planes returned safely to their bases.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 October 1980.

Communique No 114

JN310904 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0852 GMT 31 Oct 80

[Communique No 114 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 31 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The glorious days of victory are continuing. The Arab nation's soldiers, the valiant sons of our armed forces, are continuing their victorious advance. The enemy is retreating with continued horror and his leadership knows nothing but lies and charlatanism. Last night and this morning our valiant troops tightened the siege around Abadan and destroyed the enemy's pockets in other sectors, inflicting great losses upon him.

Our troops' accomplishments are the appropriate reply to the racist Persian enemy's lies and charlatanism.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: 13 killed.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles were destroyed.
C. Several stockpiles of hardware were destroyed and burned.
D. Gas pipelines and oil tanks in Abadan and Khosrowabad were blown up and burned.

II. Our losses: Eight martyrs.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 October 1980.

ENVOYS FROM PAKISTAN, CUBA ARRIVE TO DISCUSS WAR

Pakistani Foreign Minister

JN301743 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)--Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's personal envoy to president Saddam Husayn, arrived here this evening.

Agha Shahi will convey a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, chairman of the current session of the Islamic Conference Organization, dealing with the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

The Pakistani envoy's visit is part of the efforts the good offices mission is exerting to settle the dispute between Iraq and Iran.

Cuban Foreign Minister

JN302020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2010 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received here this evening Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, the Cuban president's envoy and foreign minister. President Saddam Husayn briefed the Cuban envoy on the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and Iraq's just and legitimate demands to regain its legitimate rights.

President Saddam Husayn praised the efforts being exerted by Cuban President Fidel Castro to find a just and legitimate solution which would guarantee the establishment of right and justice in accordance with international norms and charters.

Isidoro Malmierca Peoli conveyed to President Saddam Husayn President Fidel Castro's greetings and concepts about the current situation between Iraq and Iran.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi; and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

CONTACTS BETWEEN IRAN, U.S. ON ARMS, HOSTAGES REPORTED

Arms Talks

JN301628 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Paris, 30 Oct (INA)--Press reports published here have revealed that an Iranian team is currently holding secret contacts in Washington to procure U.S. military arms and equipment. The weekly magazine (FSD) reports that the U.S. Administration has stockpiled large quantities of spare parts and arms in military warehouses in New Jersey to be shipped to Iran.

The magazine cites a Persian diplomat as saying that these spare parts and arms are part of a new $550 million deal signed by Tehran and Washington which is not related to deals concluded by the shah. The magazine explains that the Iranian team, which is composed of a group of veteran employees who served under the shah, has held negotiations with officials in the State Department and the Pentagon. The magazine points out that the U.S. Administration's approval of sending spare parts and arms to Iran encouraged information media to speak about the approaching release of the hostages.

'Political Deal'

JN311043 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1022 GMT 31 Oct 80

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Oct (INA)--An Iranian source has revealed that a political deal was concluded between Iran and the United States on the release of the U.S. hostages and escalation of the war against Iraq. The source added that an Egyptian personality played an important role in making special arrangements for this deal, with the cooperation of an American personality.

The Iranian source, Hamad Qaderi, a follower of Shari'atmadari, who disappeared from the forefront of events a few months ago after differences with Khomeyni about the Iranian constitution, told the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL'AMM that he has incriminating documents about the aforementioned deal.

However, he refused to reveal these documents since, as he said, the circumstances through which the country is now passing are not suitable.

He added that the Egyptian middleman informed officials in the Islamic Republican Party ruling in Iran of the U.S. desire for the release of the hostages only hours before the U.S. elections begin.

The Iranian source said he expected Iran to witness further problems.

The paper AL-MUSTAQBAL lately published a report saying that Iran will release the hostages either next Sunday or Monday. The U.S. elections will be held next Tuesday.

RIGHTS SOCIETY URGES WALDHEIM TO STOP IRANIAN BOMBING

JN301115 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA)--The Iraqi Human Rights Society has called on UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to intervene in order to stop the Persian enemy's bombing of civilian targets and populated areas.

In cables sent today to the UN Human Rights Committee and the Committee of Human and Basic Rights in the Arab homeland, the society called for a denunciation of the stands of those states that are directly or indirectly encouraging the racist Persian regime to continue its aggression against Iraq.

The cables included calls for pressuring the Persian regime to respect international agreements and charters, particularly those pertaining to the treatment of civilians and capitives in the state of war.

The cables also called for putting an end to the inhuman practices carried out by the Khomeyni regime against the Iranian peoples, practices that are against human rights.

LIBYA ISSUES WARRANTS FOR ARREST OF PLANE CREW

JN291956 Baghdad INA in English 1915 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Text] Paris, 29 Oct (INA)--Libyan authorities issued arrest warrants against the crew of a Boeing Libyan aircraft who refused to fly arms and ammunition to Tehran.

Press reports said here Wednesday the crew refused to take off after the plane was loaded with the arms and ammunition in a Libyan air base.

Meanwhile the Paris-based AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI magazine reported an abortive attempt to assassinate Faysal az-Zarqali, one of Al-Qadhdhafi's main opponents.

The attempt against Mr az-Zarqali's life took place in the United States recently, the magazine said.

Mr az-Zarqali is a well-known Libyan student leader.

The abortive assassination attempt is part of a campaign by Al-Qadhdhafi's agents to liquidate his opponents residing outside Libya.

BADRAN RECEIVES ARAB LEAGUE'S CHEDLI KLIBI 30 OCT 80

JN301836 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, in his office this evening. They discussed the results of the seven-member committee meetings. They also discussed the outlines of the work of the subcommittee comprising Jordan and the general secretariat which stemmed from the seven-member committee meetings. They discussed means to coordinate the necessary steps in preparation for the Arab summit which will be held in Amman on 25 November.

OFFICIALS MEET WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIAL ON COOPERATION

Prime Minister Reception

JN301641 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office today Ion Stanescu, minister state secretary of the Romanian Ministry of Industrial Construction and head of the Romanian side to the Jordanian-Romanian Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The discussion dealt with bilateral relations, particularly in the economic field, and the projects being implemented through cooperation between the Jordanian and Romanian governments. The discussion also dealt with the development of the economic relations existing between the two countries.

The Romanian minister renewed the Romanian prime minister's invitation to Mr Mudar Badran to visit Romania. Mr Badran promised to respond to the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later. The meeting was attended by Industry and Trade Minister Walid 'Asfur.

Transport Minister Meeting

JN301526 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Amman, 30 Oct (PETRA)--Engineer 'Ali as-Suhaymat, minister of state for prime minister's affairs and transport minister, today received Ion Stanescu, minister state secretary of the Romanian Ministry of Industrial Construction and head of the Romanian side to the Jordanian-Romanian Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The discussion dealt with the promotion of bilateral relations and allowing Romanian companies to transport goods from Al-'Aqaba port in accordance with rules and regulations enforced in Jordan.

Industry, Trade Minister Meeting

JN301509 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Amman, 30 Oct (PETRA)--Economic talks between the Jordanian side headed by Industry and Trade Minister Walid 'Asfur and the Romanian side headed by Ion Stanescu, minister state secretary of the Romanian Ministry of Industrial Construction and head of the Romanian side to the Jordanian-Romanian Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, began here today. The discussion at the meeting dealt with ways to increase and diversify Jordanian exports to balance the trade exchange between the two countries. The Jordanian side asked the Romanian side to expedite the implementation of the thrid expansion project of the petroleum refinery, costing 30 million dinars, and the extension of the high tension electrical power netowrk in southern Jordan. The third expansion project of the petroleum refinery will increase its production capacity of various oil by products from 5,000 to 12,000 tons daily.

BUTRUS COMMENTS ON CARTER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD LEBANON

NC302122 Paris AFP in English 2116 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Beirut, 30 Oct (AFP)--The beneficial aspects of President Jimmy Carter's Middle East policy are "hard to detect" from Lebanon's viewpoint, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said here today.

Interviewed by Lebanese television, Mr Butrus said: "I believe that Lebanon, in President Carter's mind and preoccupations, has not assumed the importance and dimensions it deserves.

"I also believe that for the Carter administration Lebanon was above all a pawn on the Middle East chessborad. Tnat is a partial, limited view that does not conform to reality."

But, he added: "We tried to change his angle of vision and I believe we have succeeded in making the American administration and State Department aware that the Lebanese problem is a problem worth being concerned about."

Lebanon, he said, hoped that whoever won the U.S. election, it would receive more "attention, understanding, and assistance."

AL-JUMAYYIL CALLS FOR MILITARY UNITY WITH LIBERALS

NC291350 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Excerpts] During its meeting this morning, the Lebanese Front discussed the situation in Beirut's southern suburb. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, Lebanese Front secretary general Edward Hunayn, (Dr Fu'ad Afram al-Bustani), and Dr Charles Malik. [Former] President Camille Sham'un did not attend the meeting because he was busy dealing with the security situation in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah.

Asked about the absence of Sham'un from today's meeting and his statement yesterday that there would be either a final agreement or a final split [between the Phalangists and the liberals], Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: None of us accepts a split because of foolish actions. I place myself at the disposal of President Sham'un. We must begin uniting the military forces after we tried twice and did not succeed. It is imperative that we either unite the rifle or split. However, we do not accept a united party because Lebanon's strength lies in its democratic character.

In reply to a question, Al-Jumayyil said: The state hesitates to carry out its duties because it thinks that we are not with it. However, we tell it to go ahead and carry out its responsibilities.

ARMY DEPLOYED IN 'AYN AR-RUMMANAH 31 OCT

NC311220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Oct 80

[Excerpts] According to reports received a short while ago, an army force supported by vehicles has been deployed in some quarters and streets in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah.

Until the preparation of this newscast, sounds of shots and grenades were still being heard in some places. Traffic had slowed in the area and in nearby places. A state of caution prevails in some streets inside 'Ayn ar-Rummanah.

ARAB PARLIAMENTARY UNION ISSUES STATEMENT 30 OCT

JN301704 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Damascus--At the end of its eighth session in Damascus, the Arab Parliamentary Union council adopted definite working plans and programs in the local, Arab and international spheres.

In a statement it issued today the council put forth recommendations on the need to strengthen relations and ideological exchange among Arab parliamentarians and the convening of an expanded general conference of the union in Algeria in the first week of March 1981 to develop the plans of dialog between Arab and world parliamentarians.

At the end of their eighth session, the Arab parliamentarians expressed appreciation for the distinctive role Syria, under its president leader Hafiz al-Asad, is playing to mobilize Arab potentials for the repulsion of the Zionist-imperialist aggression and schemes of expansion in the area.

The Arab parliamentary delegations were unanimous on the need to pool all potentials for the repulsion of the recurrent Zionist aggressions against southern Lebanon and for aborting Judaization and annexation schemes, particularly Zionist maneuvers to annex the Golan Heights to the Zionist entity.

The Arab parliamentarians called on the world to expose and oppose Israeli violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories. They also called on Iran and Iraq to end the war between them.

BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL RECEIVES BULGARIAN DELEGATION

JN301717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Damascus--At noon today Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the Foreign Relations Office, received the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] delegation led by Mavromin, deputy chief of the BCP Central Committee organization office [name and title as received], which is currently visiting Syria.

During the meeting Comrade Haydar explained the Ba'th Party's policies in the Arab and international spheres and referred to the importance of the political, economic and cultural relations which exist between Bulgaria and Syria and which are based on the directives laid down by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Zhivkov during their numerous meetings.

The Bulgarian Communist Party delegation expressed admiration of Syria's achievements and denounced the Zionist crimes; namely, the barbaric destruction of the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah.

SOURCES REPORT AL-QADHDHAFI VISIT POSTPONED

JN281247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources said in Damascus today that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will not visit Syria today as scheduled. The sources added that Al-Qadhdhafi will set a new date for this visit, which is aimed at holding talks on unity between the two countries.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID DELIVERS STATE OF NATION ADDRESS

LD301724 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] In accordance with Article 156 of the constitution, Gen Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary, today delivered his address on the state of the nation at the People's Assembly in the presence of members of the Political Bureau, members of the Central Committee and government and also diplomats.

The president, referring to the tragedy of Al-Asnam, paid high tribute to the solidarity of the Algerian people. He saluted the national army and other bodies for the efforts they made to relieve victims. He also thanked all those who shared with Algeria its tribulation. He asked for one minute of silence to be observed in memory of the victims.

Referring to the activity in the field of national life, he said: Today, we can say with every objectivity that there are many sectors in the field of national life which witnessed intensified activity, while in other sectors this activity was somewhat stagnant; we must know the causes and remedies of this. The leadership has been tackling issues entrusted to it with democratic methods.

The president stressed the importance of effort put into national production to progress and prosperity. The president explained that the important issues, which were the subject of interest since last year, are the organization of the production sectors and explaining the true meaning of the state monopoly, which does not at all mean monopolizing the national companies. It has been decided to apply decentralization in the field of economy through cutting down [word indistinct] the central frameworks and to move their headquarters as far as possible to [words indistinct]. This will cut down bureaucracy. The president also dealt with measures taken to maintain the purchasing power of citizens, those with low income in particular. He asked that proper preparations be made to celebrate the 20th anniversary of independence in less than 2 years.

Regarding foreign affairs the president touched on the challenges facing the Arab nation, observing that last year witnessed grave aggression on the Arab and Muslim nation through the decision of the Judization of (?holy Jerusalem). He nevertheless stressed that the outburst of Arab and Muslim wrath and the (?sharp) reactions are beginning to yield some fruit on the international level.

Having observed that the issue of Jerusalem is now in the background of international interest due to the outbreak of war between two Muslim countries with whom we have ties of fraternity and solidarity, the president stressed that Algeria has every admiration and affection for the two peoples of the sister countries, and that while following the events with pain, Algeria will not hesitate to discharge its duty so that just peace between the two sister countries is realized. We, he added, are part of the Arab nation and the Muslim world. Algeria, which has paid the price for its Arabism and Islam, through thousands of martyrs, believes that settling problems by peaceful means establishing fraternal relations and sincere cooperation enable us all to confront colonialism and Zionism and to play an effective and [word indistinct] role on the international level.

Proceeding from this and in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations and the OAU and in response to the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of our region, we hope that the brothers in Morocco and in the Western Sahara meet to put an end to the grave situation being experienced by the region, and that the two countries together, in the framework of the greater Maghreb homeland, give real support for the Arab east and [words indistinct] for the Palestinian people in their calamity. There is no doubt that this is the will of all the peoples of the region.

'MEASURES' PERTAINING TO FORMER PRESIDENT LIFTED

LD302128 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The Algerian people are preparing to celebrate on Saturday the 26th anniversary of the historic November revolution which took place on 1 November 1954, and which marked their deliverance from the yoke of foreign domination and occupation once and for all, the revolution ended for good the foreign presence in this land, which has been and will always be a beacon for all free men and freedom lovers and for all those who seek dignity and sovereignty throughout the world.

To mark the 26th anniversary of the 1 November 1954 revolution President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, has issued a number of pardons in matters affecting those convicted in issues involving state security.

Included in the pardon was Tahir Zubayri, former member of the Revolutionary Council.

On the same occasion all measures pertaining to former President Ahmed Ben Bella were also lifted.

LIBYA

COMMENTARY ATTACKS 'AGENT REGIMES,' SEVERANCE OF TIES

LD310055 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland 2315 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The reactionary agents in the Arab homeland are now facing the hour which they tried at all costs to avoid. Not only have they been exposed, but their inevitable doom is drawing near. They have been fully exposed and their records of disgrace and betrayals have been revealed, and have been denounced by the masses whom they disregarded and with whose fates they played havoc.

The reactionary agents are trying to prop up their collapsing wall with the bases and the forces of their master: the imperialist United States. Thus we see the United States establishing such a large number of American military bases in Arab territory.

Naturally the oppressed popular masses are not the ones who asked the United States to set up the military bases or send its fleets to Arab waters.

It is not unprecedented for the reactionary agents who stand against the aims and aspirations of the Arab nation to make decisions behind the backs of the masses with a view to dividing ranks and casting suspicions. Their black history abounds with such decisions and plots which aim at sowing the seeds of alienation among the Arab masses.

When the reactionary agents announce the severance of relations with another Arab people, they have no proof that one single member of the popular masses agrees with their decision or wishes it or knew of it in advance.

The reactionary regime which declares severance of relations with an Arab people only sentences itself to further choking and killing withdrawal. This makes the popular masses realize more fully and deeply the true subversive role played by the reactionary agent regimes which make decisions behind the backs of the masses to divide ranks, to separate, and to consolidate the artificial regional borders at a time when the popular masses look forward to unity and to the blowing up of the borders.

These foolish precedents of reaction and its agents prove more fully and deeply that relations must exist between the peoples themselves over the debris of the traditional political relations between the dictatorial regimes which rule in the name of the people.

Who was the one who decided to sever relations with the Jamahiriyah people, those free people who possess the wealth, authority and arms and who rule themselves by themselves and have destroyed once and for all the traditional governmental forms, concepts and oppressive relations?

Those who decided to sever relations are the reactionary regimes whose relations are in fact severed with the suppressed peoples in their own countries. These same agent regimes which had previously decided to present the Arab territory to the United States to build on it military bases to threaten the entire Arab nation and to try to occupy the entire Arab homeland are the ones that decided to sever relations.

The decision to sever relations was made by these same reactionary agent regimes which did nothing for the peoples except suppression, illiteracy, poverty and sickness.

They are the same reactionary agent regimes that colluded with Zionism and imperialism so that Palestine may be occupied and the cause of the Arab nation in Palestine be liquidated.

These reactionary agent regimes cannot delay for one single hour the march of the popular masses throughout the Arab homeland, that pan-Arab unionist march which will crush reaction and establish on the ruins of the agent regimes and their dictatorial exploitative relations, the new socialist society--the society of the people's authority and the age of the masses, the masses who alone possess the authority to make and implement decisions.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON SAHARA CONFLICT, DOMESTIC ISSUES

LD291045 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 20-26 Oct 80 p 21

[Interview given to As-Sarraj Muhammad Munir by Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel--place and date not specified]

[Text] [Question] In your view, what is the solution to the Sahara dispute following your withdrawal from the war?

[Answer] We were a party to the Sahara issue. After the peace agreement signed in Algeria we quit the conflict and the Mauritanian Government announced its neutrality. But neutrality does not mean neglecting and disregarding the issue. First of all, a conflict among brothers is taking place close to our borders. Therefore, and by virtue of our responsibility in the area, we are always interested in any step made toward peace. We actually participated in the recent meeting of the committee of wise men. The purpose of our intervention was to create an atmosphere of flexibility and to bring the viewpoints closer so as to find a solution to this conflict which does not serve the interests of any of the Arab peoples. Very frankly, we must first of all--on an official basis through the OAU secretariat general--get the parties concerned to respond to the committee's recommendations. As a result of the satisfaction expressed by all the parties, we are now optimistic and have great hopes, in the light of this formula, that the committee will succeed in its work.

[Question] Do you believe that a popular referendum is possible while each party continues to adhere to its stand?

[Answer] In fact, the stands of the parties are well-known. We believe that, given good will, the recommendations of the committee of wise men will resolve all the formal issues, such as the identity of the inhabitants of the Sahara, their number and who is to participate in the referendum should it be held. Self-determination must be achieved in accordance with the view of either the Kingdom of Morocco or the Polisario. These things can be resolved if all the parties agree on the formula which has been proposed by the committee of wise men.

[Question] Morocco is accusing Mauritania of allowing the Polisario to use its territory to attack the Moroccan forces in the Sahara. What is your answer to this?

[Answer] Anyone who knows the Sahara realizes that the Polisario Front does not need to use Mauritanian territory to enter the Sahara. On the other hand, as far as I recall, since Mauritania's withdrawal from the conflict only one operation has taken place in the territory adjacent to Mauritania. All the operations have been taking place in the northern part of the Sahara and in undisputed Moroccan territories. We answer also by saying that when Mauritania decided to be neutral in this conflict, it took the necessary military measures to maintain this neutrality, especially in preventing any party from using Mauritanian territory for attack or escape.

[Question] Mauritania has withdrawn from the war but it continues to retain the city of (Likwayrah) which Morocco regards as an indivisible part of its territory. When will this issue be settled?

[Answer] We regard (Likwayrah) as part of the Sahara, but because (Likwayrah) was being bombarded from the city of (Nuwadibu), the Mauritanian Government decided to remain in the city of (Likwayrah) in order to defend (Nuwadibu). It also decided to hand over this city to its rightful owners once the Saharan issue is settled.

[Question] Is Mauritanian policy really biased in favor of the Polisario and Algeria, as is being claimed?

[Answer] Anybody can accuse anybody else. However, we believe that Mauritania has inherited some of the vestiges of the former regime which did not adopt a balanced stand toward its neighbors. On the basis of the policy Ould Daddah was pursuing, analysts naturally believe that Mauritania cannot be neutral and an independent sovereign state. However, Mauritania has extended its hand to the neighbors with which it has historical fraternal relations and a common fate, but without being subservient to any of them. In any case, we believe that only time will prove the falsehood of these accusations. Time will prove that Mauritania is decidedly a state that is subservient to noboby but the friend of all states, particularly the Kingdom of Morocco and the Algerian republic.

[Question] Are you afraid that some powers might bring the former president back to power?

[Answer] We have not heard of such fears, actually. We believe that the Mauritanian people do not fear France or anybody else. We do not believe that any state can impose on us a leadership of a regime that is not chosen by the Mauritanian people themselves.

[Question] Did the Mauritanian people choose the military regime?

[Answer] Naturally they chose it, because it stems from Mauritanian citizens who express the feelings of the Mauritanian people. We can answer that by asking: Who chose the regimes in the other countries?

[Question] When will there be a return to civilian rule?

[Answer] When security is restored to Mauritania and the economic and military situation improves, there will be a return to rule by democratic representatives expressing the people's choices.

[Question] It seems that you are still far from the end of the road?

[Answer] First, we have taken the country out of an unjustifiable war. In any case, the war effort was too much, especially for a country like Mauritania.

Second, we have drawn up a policy that is based on reducing state expenditure and developing investments. This is in the economic field, of course. It is known that the economic problems appear quickly but the remedy takes too long.

[Question] Which Arab states help you most?

[Answer] Naturally, Mauritania depends on the Arab states but it does not have any ideological preference in its dealings with any particular Arab state. Mauritania seeks to have fraternal relations with all the Arab states as well as relations of cooperation.

[Question] Do you have any fears that the Sahara problem will be resolved at Mauritania's expense?

[Answer] I have often heard this question, but never in Mauritania. We do not see how this dispute can be resolved at Mauritania's expense.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA TO ASK USSR TO PUT PRESSURE ON LIBYA

LD291637 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Oct 80 p 1

[Text] Rabat--A responsible source in the Moroccan Foreign Ministry has told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the purpose of Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta's forthcoming visit to Moscow and Bulgaria is basically to discuss economic issues. The source did not rule out the possibility of the Moroccan minister discussing the Sahara problem with Soviet officials in the light of the recent developments in the area.

It is worth noting that Morocco recently expressed its strong resentment that the Soviet arms with which the Polisario is fighting are continuing to reach the front in large quantities through Libya.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the Moroccan foreign minister will openly ask Moscow to bring pressure to bear on Libya to make it stop supplying arms to the Polisario.

It is worth mentioning that the Soviet Union has a phosphate agreement with Morocco, described as "the deal of the age." The question of activating cooperation between the two countries in this field is also expected to be discussed.

PRESIDENT NAVON INTERVIEWED ON VISIT TO EGYPT

TA301742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1655 GMT 30 Oct 80

[News conference held by President Yitzhaq Navon at the Ben-Gurion Airport VIP lounge upon his return from a 5-day state visit to Egypt--live]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Good evening. Ladies and gentlemen, we will now open this meeting between the president and the press with Jerusalem radio correspondent Arye Golan, please.

[Golan] Welcome, Mr and Mrs Navon. Mr Navon, have you come back with new Egyptian proposals for the advancement of the autonomy negotiations?

[Navon] The Egyptian position is, after all, known, just as Israel's position is known to the Egyptians. There was some suggestion on a particular point, and I will transmit it to the prime minister.

[Golan] Could you, at least, hint at what it deals with, in what direction?

[Navon] No.

[Elimelekh Ram] Mr President, did the Egyptian president raise the possibility of establishing autonomy in Gaza first?

[Navon] The entire portion of the conversation with the Egyptian president that dealt with autonomy did not involve an atmosphere of negotiation but of exchange of views. I, for my part, tried to the best of my ability to convey Israel's point of view as I know it on that wide spectrum of agreement, on those things about which there is agreement. As for the negotiations, and this of course is the government's position, I explained some points of view and heard reactions, which I will transmit. I cannot say I dealt with negotiations; rather, I clarified some points. On some points it seems to me that some emphases were laid which, to me at least, were not familiar. I intend to pass them on.

[Ram] Mr President, was it your impression that the Egyptians are making the advancement of normalization condition upon substantial progress in the autonomy negotiations?

[Navon] First of all, this is not an impression. All along they have said, written and declared that the normalization is largely influenced by the progress of the negotiations. This was not my impression; we all saw it. This is the reason--as well as, perhaps, other reasons--that as far as the area of normalization is concerned, there was, if not a change, then at least some steps were taken, or some Egyptian agreements were made on some issues pertaining to normalization, which they hope might help the normalization process as well.

[Ram] [Words indistinct] In your opinion, is there linkage between the autonomy negotiations and normalization?

[Navon] As far as the atmosphere is concerned, the two are linked. Perhaps this link is not a formal link. According to the Egyptians, as they expressed it in their publications, there is direct linkage. We maintain that there should be no connection. The question is not one of formality, whether there is a formal connection or not; the question is a practical one. It is not a question of philosophizing; it is: What kind of atmosphere is being created, what is the degree of mutual trust that exists and how things can be advanced?

[Golan] In one of your speeches, you talked about the pact Egypt had signed with peace. My question is whether this pact will withstand everything even if autonomy is not established?

[Navon] I talked to As-Sadat about the pact he had signed with peace. This is a fact. So now, what is your question?

[Golan] Will this pact be kept even if the autonomy is not realized?

[Navon] What I can tell you will not be informative, but an assessment. It seems to me that as far as marching in the general direction of peace, Egypt is determined, and this decision includes President as-Sadat, the various ministers and members of various social strata as well as military figures, reporters and authors. Among people of all walks of life with whom we had contact, they said: Peace is something from which there is no turning back. The question is what will the nature of that peace be; will it be peace that only means no war, or peace as Israelis expect it to be, involving relations, ties, coming and going, greater agricultural and industrial ties, normal and warm ties, contact between peoples? This is the question.

It can be assumed that there is some sort of connection between progress in the negotiations and this sphere. I was told this more than just once, but not officially by President as-Sadat or a minister. I met authors, men of the arts, poets and university lecturers. I wanted to meet members of this circle, which is highly influential in Egypt. The repeated note was in this vein. One of them said: All right, we signed a peace treaty, everything is all right. Now, do you want peace to exist merely between two leaders or a number of people? However, what you are asking us to do, to open our hearts and to come to Israel and converse with you, we do not feel it. Right after [the signing of the peace treaty] we did, but now. Meanwhile--and then, when I asked: What do you mean? They raised reasons with which you are probably familiar, including charges involving progress or the lack thereof in the negotiation.

Of course, the Palestinian issue was repeated in all the deliberations, as well as arguments against the Jerusalem law, the Golan affair and the settlements. This is repeatedly mentioned. In other words, the two are always intertwined. I asked about visiting Israel: Why are there no contacts; why are you refusing to form contacts with Israel? Come and see reality as it is; know the truth as it really is. You write about things; how can you write without knowing the truth? You are nourished by information from a secondary or tertiary source. I said it to newspaper editors, too. And the answer is invariably--and this is interesting, without the rather different circles having held contacts among them--all right, we would have liked it. As though they do not feel like it, as though saying: You psychologically hamper this.

[Ram] Based on this impression, do you have anything to suggest to the Israeli Government to change the situation?

[Navon] I have a few thoughts.

[Ram] And do you intend to raise them with the prime minister and the Cabinet?

[Navon] I told the prime minister thatI would like to talk to him, and this I will do tomorrow. We will be in touch and set a time for a meeting in which I will give him my impressions. If something is accepted, all right. What is not accepted will not be accepted. This is another matter.

[Ram] Sir, how would you sum up your visit, the first by an Israeli head of state, to Egypt?

[Navon] Before I left, I wished to moderate the great expectations that started to appear in the press and about which people began talking, because I did not know what I was to expect. I set as a goal--and I had asked to arrange the timetable accordingly--to use this visit to bring Israel's message to three major circles. First, I wanted to have direct contact with President as-Sadat, of course, as well as with other members of his government and the leadership, whether it was Vice President Mubarak, his deputy--who is also deputy prime minister because As-Sadat is both the prime minister and the president--the speaker of the parliament, the chairman of the party and other figures. Primarily, I wanted to meet them in person and to hear their thoughts and to tell them, in reaction, what I have to say. This was achieved. I regret that there was not more time for that. It simply appears that there are only 24 hours in a day.

Secondly, or rather, the second circle I tried to reach was the one I had already mentioned: the intelligentsia, the editors of the daily newspapers and the weeklies, authors, poets. These are people of stature in Egypt above and beyond what can be expected, because in no other countries do such circles enjoy such influence as these people have. I cannot say that all of a sudden I brought about a change in their world view, but the very fact that the president of the State of Israel took the trouble to invite them, talk to them, even at a dinner party--it seems to me that this contributed somewhat. I myself learned a lot from it.

Thirdly, I wanted to achieve something else in the area of public relations, in explaining Israel's positions and basic truths as to who we are, what we are, namely that we are not the monsters portrayed by the media for 30 years now. For 30 years now we have been given two conflicting portrayals: on the one hand, as a monster that wants to destroy and demolish; on the other hand, as an accumulation of masses, a people with a shattered economy, a people of different extractions who will be shaken by a slight push. Both images had to be contradicted so that they see us the way we are, to the extent possible, and to reach as large a public as possible. This was achieved by the fact that the Egyptian press published my speeches almost in full and that the television broadcast it to the Egyptian people. Everywhere I went I encountered people who said: I read what you said. To the extent that we wanted to deliver Israel's word to the Egyptians in their language, in the manner I wanted them to see things, this was achieved.

If, in addition, this also contributed through a series of agreements reached in a conversation with As-Sadat on matters of normalization, all the better.

BEGIN TERMS PRESIDENT NAVON'S TRIP 'REAL SUCCESS'

TA311230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 31 Oct 80

[Text] Prime Minister Begin has called on President Navon to hear about his recent visit to Egypt. Afterward, reporter David Essing asked the prime minister if President Navon had brought back any new ideas.

[Begin recording] [Begin] He gave me details about his talks with President as-Sadat, Vice President Mubarak and other meetings he held. Of course, I cannot divulge any details about those private talks.

[Question] There has been talk lately of President as-Sadat wanting to tackle the Gaza first option again. What would your position be on that?

[Answer] No! The question is a mistaken one. President as-Sadat suggests and suggested--I have it in writing from him--that we should first reach a general agreement about the autonomy for the Arab inhabitants in Judaea, Samaria and in the Gaza district. If we have such an agreement, then he would suggest to apply it first to Gaza. In other words, we have to conduct negotiations about a general agreement on the autonomy. So there is no such proposal.

[Question] You have extended an open invitation to President as-Sadat to visit Israel again. Do you think this is going to happen in the near future? Have you had any information on this?

[Answer] Our president invited also President as-Sadat, and I heard from President as-Sadat when I was in Aswan that he accepts my invitation. I think he did so the same with the president of Israel. So, why shouldn't we assume that he shouldn't come? The question, then, is of contacts between the governments.

[Question] Finally, how important are the steps in normalization that Presidents as-Sadat and Navon worked out this time?

[Answer] They are important and positive, and we are glad that such an announcement was made. The visit was a real success for Israel and for the relations between the two countries, and I congratulated again our president on the results of that visit, and Mrs Navon. [end recording]

EDITOR REPORTS AS-SADAT, MUBARAK PRAISE OF NAVON VISIT

TA310815 Jerusalem POST in English 31 Oct 80 p 1

[By editor in chief Ari Rath]

[Text] Cairo--President Anwar as-Sadat had high praise for President Yitzhaq Navon and termed his visit to Egypt an important phase in the peace process, a close adviser to As-Sadat told the Jerusalem POST shortly before Navon's departure yesterday afternoon.

"Navon has an open mind and speaks our language like one of us. He looks at things from a broad, global point of view," As-Sadat reportedly said.

The same view of Navon's visit was shared by Egyptian Vice-President Husni Mubarak, who told the POST at Cairo International Airport yesterday that "Navon's visit was very successful, because it improved understanding on both sides and helped to clarify many problems."

Mubarak said that Navon's visit and the way he was received by the Egyptian people proved that Egypt was sincere in its quest for peace. He called on Israel to be more flexible and to show that it shared the same sincere approach to peace.

Mubarak was particularly critical of the Jerusalem law and of the proposed Golan bill, which he said was placing "welcome ammunition in the hands of Syria's Ba'th Party and the other rejectionists." "Al-Asad has enough problems of his own and would not even think of raising the Golan issue now were it not for this idea of the new bill," Mubarak said bitterly, adding that it also gave the Russians a convenient excuse to increase their grip over Syria.

"It is difficult to proceed with the normalization process when we are faced time and again with new surprises and obstacles by Israel," he complained.

Referring to the Gulf war and other upheavals in the Middle East, Mubarak stressed the importance of solving the Palestinian problem once and for all "so that we can face together our real enemies." He said that a number of important Arab states were waiting to join the peace process as soon as real progress towards a solution of the Palestinian issue is made.

The Egyptian vice-president was also critical of the lack of a real American presence in the Middle East, charging that Washington had no clear policy on some of the pressing problems in the region. "I told this to the American leaders during my recent visit to Washington, knowing full well that they would not be pleased with my criticism," he added.

BEGIN SUBMITS AUTONOMY DOCUMENT TO KNESSET COMMITTEE

TA301310 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Oct 80 p 2

[By Yehoshu'a Bitzur]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday defended the contents of the Israeli document on the autonomy issue which was recently submitted by Minister Dr Yosef Burg to the U.S. and Egyptian representatives in Washington. According to Mr Begin, the document does not contain any deviation whatsoever from the Camp David accords. However, the hawks in the Likud and the NRP expressed their serious concern that the document gives way to additional concessions which might strangle Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

In the wake of repeated demands by members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Begin presented them with the updated Israeli autonomy document. The members of the committee were allowed to examine the document but the copies were later collected at the end of the meeting to avoid their removal from the committee room. This is because the prime minister still wants to keep the details secret. The committee members demanded to receive the contents of the new U.S. document on the autonomy but the prime minister refused to divulge them.

The Israeli document is four pages long and includes dozens of clauses dealing with all the issues connected to the self-governing authority, security, water and land within the autonomy.

Regarding self-administration, the document stipulates 14 functions which will be handed over to the self-governing authority such as the courts system, transportation, health, education, housing, paving of roads and so on. The autonomy council will not deal with security and foreign matters. Instead, the document proposes that all the security issues within the autonomy, including internal security, should be in Israel's hands.

The autonomy will have local police and on internal security issues Israel will cooperate with the autonomy council. The war against terrorism will be controlled by Israel.

Israel and the autonomy council will also jointly handle issues pertaining to water and land. Regarding water it is stipulated that any use of the water resources exceeding present consumption within the boundaries of the autonomy will be done in coordination between the two parties because any overpumping by one side might upset the balance of water of the other side. Israel also proposes to establish a comprehensive and regional body in the Middle East in order to coordinate the exploitation of water resources.

On the issue of land, a distinction is made in the document between three different kinds: Land privately owned or held by Arabs will remain in their possession. Israel will keep the land allocated to the settlements and, at the same time, keep in mind the development and fleshing-out needs of these settlements. Land tracts will also be earmarked for the IDF bases in Judaea and Samaria where the IDF forces will be deployed upon the establishment of the autonomy.

A third category of land is land owned by the state which is not held by Arabs or earmarked for Jewish security and settlement needs. The exploitation of these tracts of land will have to be agreed upon jointly by Israel and the autonomy council.

The document explicitly determines that the autonomy's administration and laws will not apply to the Jewish settlements in the territories which will be subordinate to the Israeli administration. It will also be possible to purchase private land for establishing settlements if the Arabs want to sell it. The rights of the Jewish settlers regarding the land earmarked for their settlements and future development will not be restricted.

The prime minister explained that the Camp David accords did not refer to the problems of water and land. Therefore, the new Israeli document had to deal with these subjects in detail. The novelty contained in the Israeli proposal is that Israel and the autonomy council will have to reach an agreement on certain issues concerning the use of water resources and land whose ownership has not been specified.

The prime minister firmly contended that the new Israeli document also grants autonomy to the inhabitants and not to the territory. However, Begin emphasized, the expropriation and seizure of land should be banned. According to him, an Israeli authority will be established for the administration of Jewish land in the territories. Begin added that no danger for Israel was inherent in the new document.

Nevertheless, the prime minister objected to the proposals to grant the autonomy institutions with constitutional legislation authority since this would lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. Begin expressed his readiness to grant them subsidiary legislation authority such as that enjoyed by local authorities. Begin recalled that, according to the Camp David accords, the IDF will remain in the territories also beyond the 5-year transition period. The document also states that the IDF forces will redeploy in predetermined locations. Israel does not agree that these locations should be approved by the Arabs.

SINAI WITHDRAWAL DEPENDENT UPON SUPERVISION ACCORD

TA301150 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Oct 80 p 1

[By political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Text] Israel has informed the United States and Egypt that it will make the final stage of the withdrawal from the Sinai in April 1982 dependent upon reaching an agreement on the supervision of the evacuated area 1 year earlier, that is, in April 1981.

According to the agreements reached in October 1979 between Israel and the United States, talks between the parties will begin 1 year prior to the final stage of the withdrawal from the Sinai in order to conclude the arrangements on the supervision over the areas to be evacuated.

In the message sent by President Carter to President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin on 26 March 1979 it is stated that a UN force appointed by the Security Council will be in charge of supervision in the Sinai. The message also states that if this arrangement is not implemented the U.S. President will see to the establishment of a multinational force.

In discussions between Israel and the United States on the eve of the withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line--when it transpired that the United States could not recruit a multinational force for the supervision mission--it was decided to set up a U.S. field mission formed by 200 unarmed civilians which would also include UN observers, in keeping with the U.S. wish.

From recent contacts held between the parties it emerges that now, too, there is not much of a probability that the Security Council will appoint a supervision force or that the United States will set up a multinational force. In any case, it is noted in Jerusalem that if a multinational force is not established the United States will set up a U.S. supervision force. However, the supervision arrangements and the scope of the force have yet to be discussed.

Since the supervision arrangements in the Sinai have so far been carried out without an agreement (although the arrangements between the sides were actually adhered to) because of differences of opinion between Israel and Egypt on various clauses in the proposed agreement it is now feared in Jerusalem that controversies and lengthy debates will also arise about the latter arrangements. Due to the fact that this issue is connected to the last stage of the Israeli withdrawal to the international border there is no interest in leaving the discussion on the supervision arrangements to the last minute since they might not be concluded by the time of the withdrawal.

Therefore, Jerusalem opted to regard April 1981--the date set for beginning discussions on the supervision arrangements--as the date for achieving the final decision on the supervision arrangements to be introduced upon the final withdrawal from the Sinai. In order to emphasize the significant importance it attaches to the supervision arrangements, Israel has announced that it will make the final stage of the withdrawal from the Sinai dependent on reaching an agreement on its supervision 1 year earlier.

It has been learned that in recent contacts Egypt withheld its replies. In contrast, Egypt claims that the Israel condition is unfounded. The negotiations on the supervision arrangements are conducted by the Foreign Ministry.

LIBYAN MIRAGE AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY SENT TO SYRIA

TA311135 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 31 Oct 80 p 1

[By military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] Libyan "Mirage" aircraft have recently been transferred to Syria within the framework of the merger between the two countries. The French-made aircraft are now being operated by the Syrian Air Force.

It has been learned that Syria wishes to buy from the Soviet Union the advanced "MiG-27's" and has made extreme efforts in developing its air force. It has been making use of the practical aid it has been receiving from the Soviet Union and Libya toward reaching that goal.

Not long ago a Syrian pilots' course ended and several dozen young Syrian pilots graduated. Syrian pilots flew "MiG-25's" in the graduation ceremony held in Aleppo.

IRAQ REPORTEDLY SUPPORTING JORDAN'S ANTI-PLO MOVES

TA281100 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Iraq supports Jordan's efforts to undercut the PLO's representation of the Palestinians and to take its place. Correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned this from sources in east Jerusalem. The sources said that the Iraqi Ba'th Party rejects a Palestinian state because in its view this would deepen inter-Arab division. With Iraqi encouragement, Jordan has taken several steps to underscore its pretention to representing the Palestinians. Thus, for instance, it is forbidding West Bank delegations to take part in inter-Arab conferences, insisting that they attach themselves to the Jordanian delegation.

ETHIOPIA

CUBAN VICE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 5-DAY VISIT

FL301746 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Addis Ababa--Cuban Industry Vice Minister Jose Luis Beltran has arrived in Ethiopia for a 5-day working visit. The purpose of the visit is to seek ways for future expansion of bilateral cooperation between Cuba and Ethiopia, specifically concerning the chemical, mining and energy industries, Beltran told the press. Cuba currently cooperates with Ethiopia in the fields of medicine, education, veterinary medicine, agriculture, livestock, road construction and others.

KENYA

PRESIDENT WARNS POLITICIANS SEEKING TO DISRUPT PEACE

LD302109 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Oct 80 EA

[Excerpt] Speaking in Swahili at the opening of the Rift Valley Bottler's Factory at Eldoret today, President Moi warned disgruntled leaders seeking to cause chaos and havoc in the country that their evil activities would no longer be tolerated. President Moi said it was ironical that while wananchi enjoyed peace and stability, some people, propelled by lust for power, were planning to disrupt that peace to achieve their own selfish ends. Worse still, said the president, are those few politicians who do not appear to forget the past and work toward a brighter future.

He noted that he had on his part forgiven the past, and said that no politician with Kenya's interest at heart should find solace in opening old wounds. Saying that he had gone through trials and tribulations for the sake of the country's safety and unity, President Moi cautioned the plotters and the disgruntled to watch out as his patience was running out. He reaffirmed his commitment to safeguarding wananchi's safety and warned that anybody trying to undermine Kenya's unity would be dealt with seriously. Reiterating that his humility should never be mistaken for weakness, Reiterating that his humility should never be mistaken for weakness, the president warned that anyone tampering with Kenya's security would be dealt with firmly. Leaders, he said, should always ask themselves what they had done to uplift the welfare of wananchi. President Moi cautioned that elected leaders who appeared antigovernment in their actions would be required to seek a fresh mandate from the people. However, President Moi said that those who were working against the government were few and the general wananchi were innocent.

SOMALIA

TRIPOLI REPORTS SOMALI FRONT STATEMENT ON DEFECTIONS

LD302234 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The popular uprising against the Somali agent regime and the American presence in Somalia, which is led by the National Salvation Front and its revolutionary committees spread throughout the various sections of the Somali people, is increasing.

In its statements, the front said a large number of government forces have defected to the front and the popular revolution.

The National Salvation Front also said Brother 'Abd al-Rahman 'Ayid, member of the former Somali parliament and head of the ideological affairs sections at the Somali Socialist Party, has fled to Djibouti and asked for political asylum. Brother Ibshir Farih, governor of Chisimaio region, and a number of government officials have fled from Somalia to Kenya and asked for political asylum. Abdallah Ablay, counselor at the Somali Embassy in Djibouti, has also asked for political asylum there. The front's statement says those brothers who have fled the regime of terror, repression and agentry in Somalia have joined the Somali National Salvation Front and its revolutionary forces to work to topple the agent Siad Barre regime.

CAMEROON

AHIDJO OUTLINES BASIS OF NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN

AB310710 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] The head of state has issued a circular to members of government and provincial governors on the elaboration of the fifth 5-year development plan. The new plan will come into effect on 1 July 1981. The circular, aimed at sensitizing the public with regard to future challenges facing the nation, outlines the fundamental options on which the plan will be based. These include planned liberalism, self-reliant development, balanced development and social justice.

The fifth plan will be guided by several objectives, including the realization of self-sufficiency in food production, a more dynamic development of the agricultural sector, and a more intensified research and exploitation of mineral and energy resources. This will involve a reorientation of industry policy, a policy that would give priority to local raw materials and promote highly competitive enterprises.

The drawing up of the new plan will involve four phases: the definition of objectives, the elaboration of programs in different sectors, a review of the plan by a planification commission, and the examination and coordination of the board by a synthesis commission.

CHAD

NEW OAU SUBCOMMITTEE SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN LOME

AB302228 Paris AFP in French 1703 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Lome, 20 Oct (AFP)--A new summit conference of the OAU subcommittee on Chad will soon be held in the Togolese capital. It will be attended by the Chadian warring factions. This was announced on Thursday in Lome.

Presidents Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea and Mathieu Kerekou of Benin, who were scheduled to arrive in Lome on Thursday morning, have put off their trip until Friday because of the belated arrival of a delegation of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Mr Oueddei Goukouni. That delegation, which is led by the agriculture minister, Naimbaye Lossimian, arrived in the Togolese capital on Thursday afternoon. Mr Lossimian has remained in Lome since the peace conference of 18 and 19 October in order to attend the followup negotiations of the OAU subcommittee (Benin, Togo, Guinea and the Congo) aimed at drawing up the conditions for a cease-fire in Chad. He recently returned to Ndjamena in order to consult his government.

A delegation of Mr Hissein Habre's Armed Forces of the North led by Mahamat Saleh, member of the Command Council of the Armed Forces of the North (CCFAN), is also in Lome to attend the meeting.

The Lome negotiations on Chad began on 18 October with a summit conference of the OAU subcommittee. A draft document has been written since then, calling for a cease-fire in Chad, the demilitarization of Ndjamena, and the sending of an observer team and a neutral peace-keeping force to Ndjamena. This had been announced in the Togolese capital. However, difficulties came up concerning the conditions for the implementation of these resolutions. It is indicated in Lome that the document has been subject to several changes these past few days during the plenary sessions of the OAU subcommittee.

Kamougue Participation

AB291324 Paris AFP in French 1123 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Yaounde, 29 Oct 80 (AFP)--Lt Col Abdelkader Kamougue, the leader of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) and leader of the southern Chadian faction, arrived on Tuesday evening in the Cameroonian port of Douala from Garoua, northern Cameroon, reliable sources in

Yaounde said on Wednesday morning. Lt Col Kamougue, who is also vice president of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, might go to Lome on Thursday in order to participate in the peace conference on Chad, observers say.

AFP INTERVIEWS LIBYAN SOLDIER CAPTURED BY FAN FORCES

AB301737 Paris AFP in English 1654 GMT 30 Oct 80

[By Marc Pondaven]

[Text] Ndjamena, 30 Oct (AFP)--One of five Libyan soldiers captured here by the Armed Forces of the North (FAN) of Hissein Habre has told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he arrived in Chad earlier this month with 500 other Libyan troops to raze Ndjamena to the ground. The soldier, a noncommissioned officer in the Libyan Army who was presented for interview by the FAN here, was captured during an attack last week on FAN positions north of Ndjamena. The FAN have been battling the Armed Forces of the People (FAP) of Oueddei Goukouni for control of the Chadian capital for more than 7 months. The soldier said that he first stayed at Dougia, a village 80 kms (50 miles) from Ndjamena, on the banks of the Chari River not far from Lake Chad. Dougia is a rearguard base of Mr Goukouni's army. The Libyan force then moved by river to Farcha, at the exit to Ndjamena, where Mr Goukouni's forces have a command post, the prisoner said. The FAN also presented documents found upon Libyan soldiers killed in the attack, including Libyan military identity papers and mission orders. The five prisoners were in good health and appear to have been well-treated.

Idriss Miskine, vice chairman of the FAN Command Council, added during the presentation of the captured men that in fighting on October 20 at Faya Largeau, some 1,000 kms (650 miles) north of Ndjamena, Mr Habre's forces killed 30 Libyans and took 6 others prisoner. He also solemnly invited the Organization of African Unity's special subcommittee on the Chad conflict to send envoys to witness the well-founded positions adopted by the Armed Forces of the North and their allies.

GABON

PRESIDENT DACKO ARRIVES ON 2-DAY WORKING VISIT

AB302052 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Excerpt] A distinguished guest, the president of the Central African Republic, David Dacko, arrived this afternoon in Libreville, the Gabonese capital. The Central African leader is on a 2-day working visit to our country. The experts of the two countries will take this opportunity to examine and cross-examine the various sectors of commercial exchanges, in particular the conditions for implementation of the 1975 agreements on manpower and air transport. They will also seek to set up a joint commission capable of ensuring the implementation of all agreements and finding ways and means of strengthening the cooperation between Gabon and the Central African Republic.

PRESIDENT CARRIES OUT MINOR CABINET RESHUFFLE

AB301145 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] The president of the republic and head of the government, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, yesterday issued two decrees which slightly modify the composition of the government of renaissance and renovation. The director of the head of state's civilian cabinet, Michel Essongue, will now read these decrees:

[Begin recording] The president of the republic and head of government has issued two decrees which I am going to read to you. Decree modifying the composition of the government: The president of the republic and head of government, considering the Constitution of the republic and decree No 278 PR of 27 February 1980, decrees:

Article 1--Francois Owono-Nguema is appointed minister of state in charge of culture, arts, popular education and missions, while (Campare Eze) is appointed minister of state for planning, development and participation.

Article 2--This decree, which takes effect on 29 October 1980, will be registered and immediately published wherever needed. Libreville, 29 October 1980. Signed: El Hadj Omar Bongo.

The second decree relating to the appointment of secretaries of state: The president of the republic and head of the government, considering the Constitution of the republic, considering decree No 278 PR of 27 February 1980 relating to the composition of the government and decrees No 000280 PR of 27 February 1980 and No 000908 PR of 23 August 1980 relating to the appointment of secretaries of state, decrees:

Article 1--Jean-Baptiste Ngomo-Obiang is appointed secretary of state for youth, sports and leisure, while Augustin Moussamba is appointed secretary of state for agriculture, water and forests.

Article 2--This decree, which takes effect on 29 October 1980, will be registered and immediately published wherever needed. Libreville, 29 October 1980. Signed: El Hadj Omar Bongo.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU CRITICIZES BELGIUM FOR SHELTERING ZAIRE CRITICS

AB301335 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0945 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Kisangani, 30 Oct (AZAP)--The founding chairman of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, who is now visiting Kisangani, yesterday granted an interview to the Belgian press during which he talked about Zaire's present situation, its external debt, its relations with Belgium, its agreements with the International Monetary Fund and the situation on the Zairian-Ugandan border.

Calm prevails on the Zairian-Ugandan border, President Mobutu announced to the press, but he said that in his capacity as state commissioner for defense he must visit this part of the republic, which is now suffering the consequences of the recent fighting between Ugandan soldiers and the rebels and which has provoked a great influx of Ugandan refugees into Zaire. In this connection, he announced that 37,000 refugees have already been registered in just two small localities alone, and wondered what the total figure will be at the end of this exodus. Apart from the surveillance of the border by a battalion of the Zairian Armed Forces, Zaire is in contact with Uganda through the diplomatic channel, indicated the head of state, who rejected Ugandan accusations against Zaire to the affect that Zaire has been aiding the rebels against the Kampala regime. These accusations are false and unfounded, the founding chairman reaffirmed, adding: Tanzania, which is aiding the Uganda military, was the first country to recognize that Kampala's accusations against Kinshasa are false.

Citizen Mobutu then analyzed Belgian-Zairian relations, which are often beclouded by the activities of the so-called opponents of the Zairian regime established in Belgium, as well as by the tendency of some Belgian political circles to make Zaire a stake in their internal political gambling. The head of state strongly criticized Belgium, which, contrary to its own laws, shelters Zairians who have committed all sorts of crimes against their country and allows them to denigrate the legal authority in Zaire with the sole purpose of hurting Zaire. He mentioned the case of Mungul Diaka, who, after embezzling funds meant for students, managed to escape to Belgium, where he is allowed to talk over the radio, to issue press communiques insulting his head of state, etc.

This policy is not in conformity with the friendship Brussels claims to have for Kinshasa, continued the founding chairman, who stressed that Belgium is certainly a sovereign state which is free to adopt any attitude it wishes on this problem, but it is also a country of law. Belgian law precisely forbids an alien established in that country to attack his own head of state in this manner.

Zaire, which respects the sovereignty of Belgium, asks Brussels to at least respect its own laws relating to this problem. We cannot agree to become a sort of political stake in your country, the head of state declared. In fact, some Belgian circles often reiterate that Zaire is costing Belgium dearly because Brussels grants important financial assistance to Kinshasa within the framework of cooperation--assistance which, according to these circles, is being diverted by the Zairian authorities instead of reaching the people. Belgian public opinion is thus continuously deceived; this is becuase whenever Belgium gives financial aid to Zaire within framework of cooperation, the money remains in Belgium and Zaire can use it only to purchase goods from Belgian companies. This is therefore only an operation aimed at encouraging the Belgian companies, the head of state affirmed. On the other hand, Zaire regularly transfers large sums of money to Belgium to pay the salaries of the Belgian technical assistance personnel, whereas the part of the salaries to be paid by Brussels remains frozen in Belgian banks.

President Mobutu also talked about the severe and difficult conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund because, he said, this international institution does not take into account the fact that the governments of the assisted countries must also see to the progress and well-being of their peoples. Thus, the International Monetary Fund is only concerned with the settlement of Zaire's external debt. This year, Kinshasa is compelled to pay a debt of $450 million, whereas if part of this amount was devoted to agriculture it would constitute a source of progress for Zaire. The head of state pointed out, however, that the present tendency at the International Monetary Fund is characterized by better understanding of the specific problems of the developing countries.

In answer to a question, the president said that Zaire's running into debt has greatly benefitted the country. In fact, thanks to the borrowed money, Zaire was able to build the Inga dam, which has considerably and opportunely reduced Zaire's oil bill at a time when the cost of this product is so dear. The debt has also enabled Kinshasa to acquire equipment and vessels for its national airline and shipping companies. This external debt, which now amounts to $4.6 billion, in not as important as some people pretend, considering Zaire's potentials compared with those of other countries like Brazil, whose external debt amounts to $52.6 billion. The head of state emphasized the responsibility of the industrialized countries for the debts of the developing countries, of which they often take unfair advantage during the preparation of contracts. Thus, instead of the initial estimate of $6 billion, the [words indistinct] refinery finally cost $13 billion. The high tension cable line, which is 90 percent completed, will cost $600 million instead of the initial estimate of $250 million.

About the problems facing Zaire, the head of state indicated that his people understand him even in the most difficult moments. This is how Zaire has been able to pass through the various stages fixed by the International Monetary Fund for the rehabilitation of the national economic, he said.

PRISONERS FREED, SENTENCES REDUCED BY PRESIDENT

AB292058 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1551 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Excerpt] On Tuesday, 110 prisoners, including nine foreigners, benefiting from the recent presidential clemency, were freed at a ceremony in the Luzumu detention camp in Bas Zaire in the presence of Citizen Bomuma-Etike, secretary of state for justice. A hundred and seventeen other prisoners, including six foreigners, had their sentences reduced by 2 years, while the death sentences imposed on 22 other prisoners were commuted to life imprisonment. Nine other prisoners also had their life imprisonment sentences commuted to 20 years with hard labor. The secretary of state for justice on this occasion stressed that the main concern of the founding chairman of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, is to see every son and daughter of Zaire live in freedom and enjoy full prosperity.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES TIES WITH SPAIN, FOREIGN POLICY

LD301539 Madrid ABC in Spanish 26 Oct 80 p 12

[By Alberto Miguez]

[Text] Madrid--The Spanish royal couple will be visiting Equatorial Guinea for the second time in December as part of a tour that will include Gabon and Cameroon. A "technical stopover" will enable the Spanish royal couple to talk to President Obiang in Malabo and to assess on the spot the development of Spanish-Guinean cooperation. Their first visit to Guinea was in December 1979.

His Majesty King Juan Carlos yesterday communicated his intention to stop over in Malabo to Guinean First Vice President Florencia Maye Ela, whom he received for an audience together with the delegation he heads.

In a lengthy and cordial conversation, Vice President Maye told me yesterday morning that relations with Spain are "excellent" and that Guinea is "very satisfied" with the way cooperation is developing. "There have been a few isolated problems concerning voluntary workers but, as President Obiang told Deputy Premier Gutierrez Mellado in August, those street incidents cannot affect interstate relations."

In Florencia Maye's opinion, Spanish cooperation is still a pressing necessity, especially in the health and education fields. "We do not lack doctors, but hospitals and schools. The reconstruction program is a little behind schedule. In Malabo, for instance, high school students have to attend in three shifts, because there are not enough buildings. In the foodstuffs field, we are suffering from a fish shortage, following the departure of the Soviet fishing fleet. We asked the Spanish Government for two or three ships to meet our protein requirements."

The Guinean vice president fails to understand why the Spanish "finqueiros" (landowners) have not yet returned. "We have returned the land to its owners, which is something no other African country would have done after decolonization, and we are establishing 2-6 month time limits for reclaiming land. Many people have insisted that either they be compensated or they do not want to return. If any Spanish or other company is interested in these unclaimed estates, we will let it have them. The important thing for us is that the cocoa be harvested and the estates worked. We have signed a labor force agreement with Nigeria, but since Macias' expulsion of Nigerian workers in 1975, that country's workers seem unwilling to return. Furthermore, we have a surplus of timber, but we have neither the machinery nor the roads to exploit it in the inland area.

"We are relatively optimistic about the future," Vice President Maye Ela continued, "as long as the complementary agreements which we signed with Spain are implemented. In 5 years' time we might have recovered from the disaster caused by the dictatorship. In this connection, we are hoping for a great deal from the development plan being drawn up by Professor Velarde Fuertes and his team. We also hope for a great deal from the international donors conference to be held in Madrid next April on Spain's initiative and with the UN Secretariat's backing.

"Our regime," Maye concluded, "maintains relations with all the world's countries, though we are facing clearly toward the West, which does not mean that we cannot belong to the nonaligned movement. Experience has shown that Fidel Castro cannot be arbiter within this movement, because he is not impartial.

The OAU, despite its apparent inefficiency, is still necessary, and must remain a forum where the African countries can resolve or at least discuss their differences without resorting to weapons. We still maintain the same stance on former Spanish Sahara. We have withdrawn our recognition of the Polisario Front and the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and support Morocco's positions, as President Obiang made clear during his visit to Madrid and Rabat."

The Guinean first vice president will leave Spain on Tuesday. During the next few days he will be meeting with representatives of Spanish political and economic life. Yesterday, he had a lengthy conversation with Socialist Party leader Felipe Gonzalez.

THE GAMBIA

COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA

AB301914 Paris AFP in French 1612 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Banjul, 30 Oct (AFP)--The Gambia decided on Thursday to break diplomatic relations with Libya with immediate effect, following repeated incidents provoked by the Libyan Jamahiriyah and its embassy in Banjul, a Gambian Government communique published on Thursday in Banjul announced.

The Gambia accuses Tripoli of having recruited young Gambians to undergo military training, and of not paying heed to previous warnings by Banjul on this affair. At the beginning of this year, the communique states, the Gambian Government learned that young Gambians were being recruited to undergo military training by a Libyan agent, a Senegalese called Ahmed Niasse.

Forty Gambians recruited by this agent arrived in Tripoli on 10 July, the communique adds. The group was forced to undergo military training, but some of them escaped and took refuge at the Gambian Embassy on 14 July.

At that time, the Banjul government said, some 200 young Gambians registered in the town of Sheba, in the center of Libya, had been taken by force into military camps for training. The Gambian Government protested (to the Libyan Government) on 15 July and asked for the immediate release of the detained Gambians from Libyan military camps. The Libyan Government was also informed that The Gambia could not remain unconcerned with the activities of Mr Niasse, supplier of facilities for the military training of Gambians and other young Africans to carry out subversive activities in Gambia and in the subregion.

In spite of repeated assurances and promises given by Tripoli, the problem was not solved, but rather deteriorated, when on 24 September 13 Gambians arrived in Tripoli, according to the Gambian communique. These had also been recruited by Mr Niasse through the Libyan Embassy in Banjul, which provided them with air tickets and paid sums of money before their departure, the communique continues.

Apart from these activities, the communique adds, it was discovered that the Libyan Embassy in Banjul was in direct contact with some clandestine subversive elements whose sole aim is to cause confusion and disorder in a country which, in this troubled world, has been able to maintain an exemplary (?internal) stability and democracy. The Banjul government says it has no alternative but to take this decision in view of these flagrant activities contrary to the OAU Charter and the spirit of the United Nations, and which constitute a threat to the security of The Gambia.

LIBERIA

WEH SYEN CAUTIONS MILITARY LEADERS ON PROPER ROLE

AB311118 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] PRC [People's Redemption Council] Cochairman Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen said military leaders are not politicians and should not get involved in untrue rumors. The cochairman made the statement today when he addressed the members of the PRC in Monrovia.

He went on to say that the PRC came to redeem the Liberian masses and not to suppress them. Gen Weh Syen said if PRC members suppress the masses of the Liberian people, the people would lose confidence in the council. [words indistinct] The cochairman said the council would like to do the will of the people. He thanked the members of the council for the job done while he was away in the United States.

MALI

ALGERIAN PARTY DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT

AB242102 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The FLN [National Liberation Front] delegation which has been visiting our country this morning paid a courtesy call on General Moussa Traore at 0830. (?According to) Mr (Nocine Hamel), member of the Central Committee and leader of the delegation, this friendly visit to Mali has permitted the members of the delegation, and thus the FLN, to meet the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], its authorities and the militants supporting it. The common organizational strategy and the similar functioning of the FLN and the UDPM, as well as the identity of sources of inspiration in the field of mass organization and the prospect of establishing an association of friendship, were raised by the leader of the Algerian delegation.

The secretary general of the party on his part stressed the excellent relations of cooperation and friendship between Algeria and Mali, and called on the militants of the FLN and of the UDPM to multiply such exchanges so as to strengthen the fraternal ties between the Algerian and Malian peoples. The secretary general of the UDPM and president of the republic, General Moussa Traore, charged the leader of the Algerian delegation with conveying his friendly regards to President Chadli Bendjedid.

BRIEFS

CAPE VERDE HARVEST--Praia, Cape Verde Islands, 29 Oct (AFP)--Crops on 60 percent of farmland on these Atlantic islands will be very poor this year, owing to a drought since September which has shattered hopes for the first good harvest for 15 years. A dry spell which made itself felt this month had wiped out the effect of plentiful rain earlier in the season, agriculture officials said. But this year's crop was still expected to be an improvement on disastrous results last year. A total of 58,000 of Cape Verde's 60,000 hectares (145,000 of 150,000 acres) of farmland depend totally on the rains for their irrigation. Authorities have planted 1.30 million trees this year in a major forestation campaign aimed at improving the climate. One million young trees had already been planted last year, against 500,000 in 1978, and the government plans to plant another 1.5 million next year. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 0941 GMT 29 Oct 80 AB]

GDR LOAN TO GHANA--Accra, 23 Oct (AFP)--The German Democratic Republic is to grant Ghana a $50-million loan at a low interest rate and repayable over 7 years, Peter Gussman, the country's commercial counsellor in Ghana announced on Wednesday evening. A six-man delegation of East German officials is currently in Ghana to settle the terms of this financial agreement. [Text] [Paris AFP in French 1813 GMT 23 Oct 80 AB]

SOVIET-GUINEAN COMMISSION--The fourth session of the Soviet-Guinean High Joint Commission on Maritime Fishing ended on Monday, 27 October, at the People's Palace with the signing of a new agreement on fisheries and the creation of a fisheries enterprise. Both delegations have decided to convene the fifth ordinary session of the mixed commission of cooperation during the third quarter of 1981 in Moscow. [Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 28 Oct 80 AB]

DOS SANTOS VISITS SOUTHERN PROVINCE, CRITICIZES SAVIMBI

AB301425 Paris AFP in French 1125 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Luanda, 30 Oct (AFP)--The Angolan head of state, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for 2 days at the beginning of the week stayed in southern Angola, in the province of Cuando-Cubango, to inspect the outcome of an economic plan drawn up by former President Agostinho Neto shortly before his death.

This visit of President Dos Santos assumes some importance since the province of Cuando-Cubango, bordering on Nambia, has been a special target for South African raids, the latest one less than 10 days ago.

Observers noted the critical tone of the Angolan head of state during a speech he made in Menongue, capital of the province, and in which the Ministry of Transport was congratulated by the head of state. Only a part of the program has been accomplished, Mr dos Santos conceded, while replying to criticisms from leaders of the province.

The head of state however stressed the economic role the province can play, especially in the agricultural field. The Angolan head of state also made a passionate call for a multiracial Angolan society, criticizing the call of Jonas Savimbi, leader of the UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), who has been waging a guerrilla war in the south of Angola, for a black socialist republic, in the words of Mr Dos Santos.

The Angolan president then recalled the presence of tens of thousands of whites and half-castes in Angola, and stressed their right to live in their country, adding that at every level, whether in the party or the government, the army or state organizations, elements of all races, every tribe, should contribute to the development of Angola. In unity lies our strength, the president added, accusing the black socialism of Jonas Savimbi of dividing the people.

Finally, the Angolan head of state paid a special tribute to members of the regular Angolan Army and those of the ODP (Popular Defense Organization) for their role in defending Angola's territorial integrity.

COMORO ISLANDS

ASSEMBLY SUPPORTS PRESIDENT, APPROVES BUDGET

AB310942 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 31 Oct 80

[Text] Moroni, Comoros, 31 Oct (AFP)--The leader of the Comoros National Assembly has denounced the former ambassador to France from these Indian Ocean islands for his criticism of President Ahmed Abdallah.

Assembly President Mohamed Taki asserted at the budget session here yesterday that Said Ali Kemal, who resigned in Paris in July, had been guilty of subversive and usurpatory behavior.

Mr Kemal said he was quitting to protest his government's policy on political prisoners, and criticized Mr. Abdallah for having brought about no meaningful changes when Prime Minister Salim Ben Ali's government was reshuffled at the beginning of July.

Mr. Taki defended the legitimacy of Mr. Abdallah's rule, saying the president had come to power in free elections 2 years ago this month. (Mr. Abdallah, who emerged as strongman in the Comoros after the overthrow of President Ali Soilih earlier in 1978, was the only candidate in the presidential elections).

The assembly then adopted a resolution that, among other things, rejected peremptorily subversive movements of any kind and expressed support for Mr. Abdallah's presidency.

The body also voted a government operations budget equivalent to $15.7 million for 1981, representing a nine percent increase from 1980, and heard the prime minister say that rising prices for oil and finished goods had greatly harmed the Comoros balance of trade.

SOUTH AFRICA

CISKEI TO HOLD REFERENDUM 4 DEC ON INDEPENDENCE

KD39k425 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 30 Oct 80 CA

[Excerpts] The people of the Ciskei will go to the polls on 4 December this year to take part in a referendum on whether to accept independence. The chief minister of the Ciskei, Chief Sebe, who made the announcement in Zwelitsha, said the date of the referendum will be published in the Ciskeian Government gazette this week. The referendum is being held at the request of the Ciskeian people as conveyed to Chief Sebe by traditional leaders and elected members of the national state's Legislative Assembly.

Chief Sebe said he had no doubt that peace and stability would prevail in the Ciskei and that his people were sufficiently mature to take the step toward independence. By voting in favor of independence, Ciskeians would ensure their progress to full nationhood, and the rights for which their forefathers fought would be restored. He revealed that on behalf of the Ciskei, the South African Department of Foreign Affairs had invited the United Nations to supervise the referendum, and said that if the invitation was turned down, however, other alternatives could be found. Chief Sebe said that if Ciskeians returned a "yes" vote, independence would follow as soon as agreement was reached on outstanding conditions for independence.

CABINET SETS GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL STATE CONSOLIDATION

LD301552 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Oct 80

[Text] Important decisions by the South African cabinet which will influence the consolidation of the territory of the country's national states have been announced in Pretoria. The announcement comes after two cabinet committees studied the problems involved in uniting some of the various fragmented areas of which the homelands consist.

The authorities have decided that the national states can receive more land subject to certain conditions and parliamentary approval. The guidelines for the economic development of the territories have been amended as part of the government's plans for economic cooperation between a constellation of states in southern Africa. However, the transfer of land will be subject to the condition that it is used productively by the national state involved. A study is to be made of the development requirements of the territories, and that recommendations should be submitted for border adjustments, the transfer to land and other needs. If such steps do not meet the requirementss, direct or indirect aid from the South African Government or participation by the national states in regional development projects should be reconsidered.

Turning to cases where agricultural land is added to a national state, the announcement said the white owners of the property should be allowed to remain there if they and the homeland government involved (?agreed). It is recommended that priority be given to the consolidation of the Ciskei as the country may opt for independence soon.